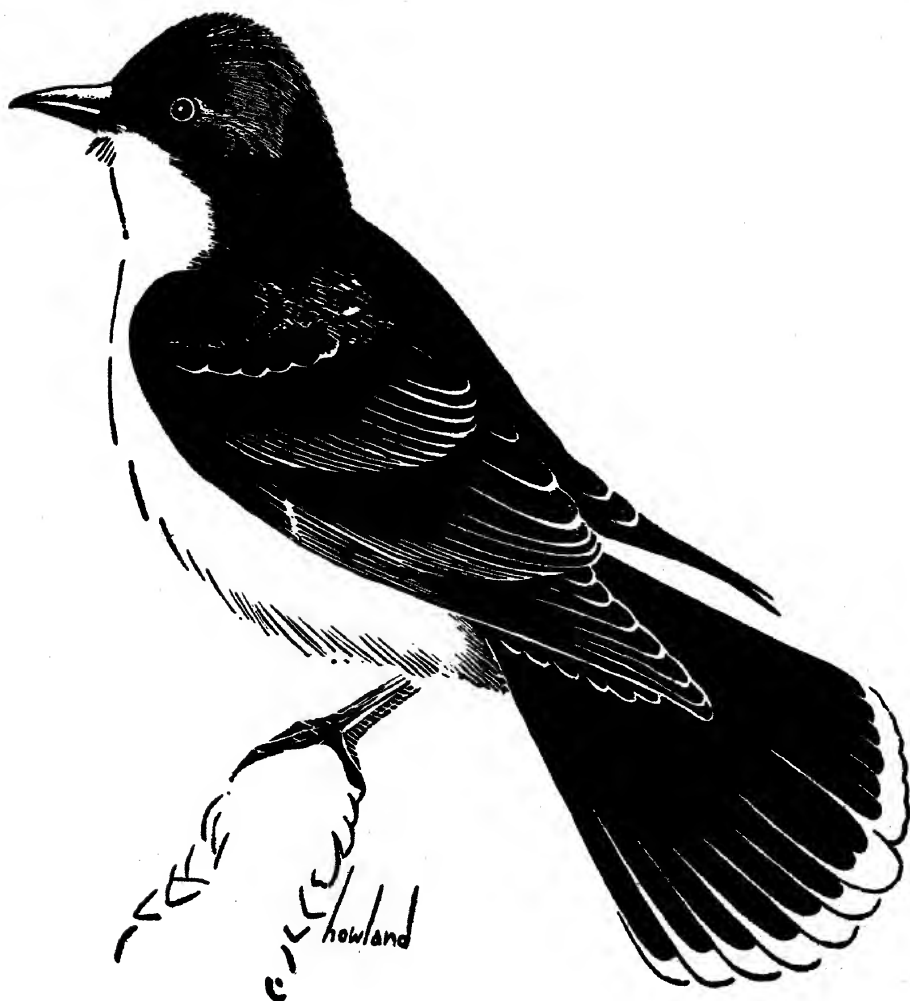


The **KINGBIRD**



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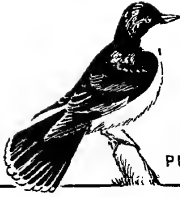
FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS, INC.

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

A belated holiday greeting to one and all. By now most of you have been on a Christmas Census or are watching the wintering birds at the feeders. Each winter brings a few surprises to each area. This year a Brazilian Cardinal *Paroaria cristata* has been feeding at trays in Albany — obviously not a voluntary immigrant from his South American home.

Such exotics are certainly escaped cage birds and each year brings more and more such species, most of which cannot survive the northeastern winters. The Brazilian Cardinal has been known to survive two consecutive winters in New York so this species may become established. We might think such a lovely bird could only be an asset to the avifauna. That's what Floridians thought when escaped Red-whiskered Bulbuls became established in their State — and now they know better. It is far too easy to import cage birds, and too many of these escape careless owners. Our native species are already suffering because of introductions of such aliens as the House Sparrow, Starling, and Rock Dove to chance even one more introduction no matter how attractive the species may seem.

Usually the recorders do not report such escaped cage birds; it seems so obviously not native and not a part of our list that we forget what might happen. It might be of some importance for us to record such events in the future and to mark winter survivors until the day that well enforced laws are passed to prevent any accidental or intentional releases. After all, most of these birds are wild species of some nation where they are trapped for the trade we encourage; we allow no such activity in our own nation.

Edgar M. Reilly, Jr.

THE SACRED BIRD

Phasianus Colchicus

(Times, unfortunately, do not really change very much. In the following article by the late William Henry Hudson, which was first published in 1915 in "*Adventures Among Birds*" and which is reprinted here with the kind permission of the publishers, Hutchinson Publishing Group of London, the great British naturalist describes the practices of the English gamekeepers in guarding their pheasant preserves. While today we may not go to the extremes of protection which Mr. Hudson writes about, it is none the less apparent that in using such devices as poletaps in shepherding their flocks, many of our game farm managers still regard the pheasant and other game birds as "sacred" to the exclusion of all else. I am sure that you will enjoy this article, and I hope that it will serve to bring into focus the need for changing the attitudes of those who operate our game farms, by legislation if necessary. — Edgar M. Reilly, Jr.)

It was hardly necessary to add the scientific name to any British species spoken of as "sacred." Certainly it is not the ibis and no mistake is possible seeing that England is not ancient Egypt, or Hindustan, or Samoa, or any remote barbarous land, where certain of the creatures are regarded with a kind of religious veneration. We call our familiar pheasant the sacred bird to express condemnation of the persons who devote themselves with excessive zeal to pheasant-preserving for the sake of sport.

To shoot a pheasant is undoubtedly the best way to kill it and would still be the best way — certainly better than wringing its neck — even if these semi-domestic birds were wholly domestic, as I am perfectly sure they were in the time of the Romans who first introduced them into these islands. I am sure of it because this Asiatic ground-bird, which in two thousand years has not become wholly native, and, as ornithologists say, is in no sense an English bird, could not have existed and been abundant in the conditions which prevailed in Roman times. The fact that pheasant bones come next in quantity to those of the domestic fowl in the ash and bone pits examined by experts during the excavations at Silchester shows that the bird was a common article of food. The country about Silchester was a vast oak forest at that period, probably very sparsely inhabited; a portion of the forest exists to this day, and is in fact one of my favourite haunts. The fox, stoat, and sparrowhawk were not the only enemies of the pheasant then: the wolf existed, the wild cat, the marten, and the founmart; while the list of rapacious birds included the eagle, goshawk, buzzard, kite, hen-harrier, peregrine falcon, and hobby, as well as all the species which still survive, only in very much larger numbers. Then there were the crows: judging from the number of bones of the raven found at Silchester we can only suppose that this chief and most destructive of the corvidae was a protected species and existed in a semi-domestic state and was extremely abundant in and round Calleva — probably at all the Roman stations. It is probable that a few tame

pheasants escaped from time to time into the woods, also some may have been turned out in the hope that they would become acclimatised, and we may suppose that a few of the most hardy birds survived and continued the species until later times; but for hundreds of years succeeding the Romano-British period the pheasant must have been a rarity in English woods. And a rarity it remains down to this day in all places where it is left to itself, in spite of the extermination of most of its natural enemies. Unhappily for England the fashion or craze for this bird became common among landowners in recent times — the desire to make it artificially abundant so that an estate which yielded a dozen or twenty birds a year to the sportsman would be made to yield a thousand. This necessitated the destruction of all the wild life supposed in any way and in any degree to be inimical to the protected species. Worse still, men to police the woods, armed with guns, traps, and poison, were required. Consider what this means — men who are hired to provide a big head of game, privileged to carry a gun day and night all the year round, to shoot just what they please! For who is to look after them on their own ground to see that they do not destroy scheduled species? They must be always shooting something; that is simply a reflex effect of the liberty they have and of the gun in the hand. Killing becomes a pleasure to them, and with or without reason or excuse they are always doing it — always adding to the list of creatures to be extirpated, and when these fail adding others. "I know perfectly well," said a keeper to me, "that the nightjar is harmless; I don't believe a word about its swallowing pheasant's eggs, though many keepers think they do. I shoot them, it is true, but only for pleasure." So it has come about that wherever pheasants are strictly preserved, hawks — including those that prey on mice, moles, wasps, and small birds; also the owls, and all the birds of the crow family, saying the rook on account of the landowner's sentiment in its favour; and after them the nightjar and the woodpeckers and most other species above the size of a chaffinch — are treated as "vermin." The case of the keeper who shot all the nightingales because their singing kept the pheasants awake at night sounds like a fable. But it is no fable; there are several instances of this having been done, all well authenticated.

Here is another case which came under my own eyes. It is of an old heronry in a southern county, in the park of a great estate about which there was some litigation a few years back. On my last visit to this heronry at the breeding season I found the nests hanging empty and desolate in the trees near the great house, and was told that the new head keeper had persuaded the great nobleman who had recently come into possession of the estate to allow him to kill the herons because their cries frightened the pheasants. They were shot on the nests after breeding began; yet the great nobleman who allowed this to be done is known to the world as a humane and enlightened man, and, I hear, boasts that he has never shot a bird in his life! He allowed it to be done because he

wanted pheasants for his sporting friends to have their shoot in October, and he supposed that his keeper knew best what should be done.

Another instance, also on a great estate of a great nobleman in southern England. Throughout a long mid-June day I heard the sound of firing in the woods, beginning at about eight o'clock in the morning and lasting until dark. The shooters ranged over the whole woods; I had never, even in October, heard so much firing on an estate in one day. I enquired of several persons, some employed on the estate, as to the meaning of all this firing, and was told that the keeper was ridding the woods of some of the vermin. More than that they refused to say; but by-and-by I found a person to tell me just what had happened. The head keeper had got twenty or thirty persons, the men with guns and a number of lads with long poles with hooks to pull nests down, and had set himself to rid the woods of birds that were not wanted. All the nests found, of whatever species, were pulled down, and all doves, woodpeckers, nut-hatches, blackbirds, missel and song thrushes, shot; also chaffinches and many other small birds. The keeper said he was not going to have the place swarming with birds that were no good for anything, and were always eating the pheasants' food. The odd thing in this case was that the owner of the estate and his son, a distinguished member of the House of Commons, are both great bird-lovers, and at the very time that this hideous massacre in mid-June was going on they were telling their friends in London that a pair of birds of a fine species, long extirpated in southern England, had come to their woods to breed. A little later the head keeper reported that these same fine birds had mysteriously disappeared!

One more case, again from an estate in a southern county, the shooting of which was let to a gentleman who is greatly interested in the preservation of rare birds, especially the hawks. I knew the ground well, having received permission from the owner to go where I liked: I also knew the keepers and (like a fool) believed they would carry out the instructions of their master. I informed them that a pair of hobbyhawks were breeding in a clump of trees on the edge of the park, and asked them to be careful not to mistake them for sparrowhawks. At the same time I told them that a pair of Montagu's harriers were constantly to be seen at a lonely marshy spot in the woods, a mile from the park; I had been watching them for three days at that spot and believed they were nesting. I also told them where a pair of great spotted woodpeckers were breeding in the woods. They promised to "keep an eye" on the hawks, and I daresay they did, seeing that both hobbys and harriers had vanished in the course of the next few days. But they would not promise to save the woodpeckers: one of the under-keepers had been asked by a lady to get her a few pretty birds to put in a glass case, and the head keeper told him he could have these woodpeckers.

Did I in these cases inform the owner and the shooting-tenant of what

had happened? No, and for a very good reason. Nothing ever comes of such telling except a burst of rage on the part of the owner against all keepers and all interfering persons, which lasts for an hour or so, and then all goes on as before. I have never known a keeper to be discharged except for the one offence of dealing in game and eggs on his own account. In everything else he has a free hand; if it is not given him he takes it, and there is nothing he resents so much as being interfered with or advised or instructed as to what species he is to spare. Tell him to spare an owl or a kestrel and he instantly resolves to kill it; and if you are such a faddist as to want to preserve everything he will go so far as to summon his little crowd of humble followers and parasites and set them to make a clean sweep of all the wild life in the woods, as in the instance I have described. No, it is mere waste of energy to inform individual owners of such abuses. The craze exists for a big head of game, or rather of this exotic bird of the woods, called in scorn and disgust the "sacred bird" by one who was himself a naturalist and sportsman; the owners are themselves responsible for the system and have created the class of men necessary to enable them to follow this degraded form of sport. I use the word advisedly: Mr. A. Stuart-Wortley, the best authority I know on the subject, an enthusiast himself, mournfully acknowledges in his book on the pheasant that pheasant shooting as now almost universally conducted in England is not sport at all.

One odd result of this over-protection of an exotic species and consequent degradation of the woodlands is that the bird itself becomes a thing disliked by the lover of nature. No doubt it is an irrational feeling, but a very natural one nevertheless, seeing that whatsoever is prized and cherished by our enemy, or the being who injures us, must come in for something of the feeling he inspires. There is always an overflow. Personally I detest the sight of semi-domestic pheasants in the preserves; the bird itself is hateful, and is the one species I devoutly wish to see exterminated in the land.

But when I find this same bird where he exists comparatively in a state of nature, and takes his chance with the other wild creatures, the sight of him affords me keen pleasure: especially in October and November when the change in the colour of the leaf all at once makes this familiar world seem like an enchanted region. We look each year for the change and know it is near, yet when it comes it will be as though we now first witnessed that marvellous transformation — the glory in the high beechen woods on downs and hillsides, of innumerable oaks on the wide level weald, and elms and maples and birches and ancient gnarled thorns, with tangle of vari-coloured brambles and ivy with leaves like dark malachite, and light green and silvery grey of old-man's-beard. In that aspect of nature the pheasant no longer seems an importation from some brighter land, a stranger to our woods, startling unlike our wild native ground-birds in their sober protective colouring, and out of har-

mony with the surroundings. The most brilliant plumage seen in the tropics would not appear excessive then, when the thin dry leaves on the trees, rendered translucent by the sunbeams, shine like coloured glass, and when the bird is seen in some glade or opening on a woodland floor strewn with yellow gold and burnished red, copper and brightest russet leaves. He is one with it all, a part of that splendour, and a beautifully decorative figure as he moves slowly with deliberate jetting gait or stands at attention, the eared head and shining neck raised and one foot lifted. Many a writer has tried to paint him in words; perhaps Ruskin alone succeeds, in a passage which was intended to be descriptive of the colouring of the pheasants generally. "Their plumage," he said, "is for the most part warm brown, delicately and even beautifully spotty; and in the goodliest species the spots become variegated, or inlaid as in a Byzantine pavement, deepening into imperial purple and azure, and lighting into lustre of innumerable eyes."

But alas! not infrequently when I have seen the pheasant in that way in the coloured woods in October, when after the annual moult his own colouring is richest and he is seen at his best, my delight has vanished when I have lifted my eyes to look through the thinned foliage at the distant prospect of earth and the blue overarching sky. For who that has ever looked at nature in other regions, where this perpetual hideous war of extermination against all noble feathered life is not carried on, does not miss the great soaring bird in the scene — eagle, or vulture, or buzzard, or kite, or harrier — floating at ease on broad vans, or rising heavenwards in vast and evervaster circles? That is the one object in nature which has the effect of widening the prospect just as if the spectator had himself been miraculously raised to a greater altitude, while at the same time the blue dome of the sky appears to be lifted to an immeasurable height above him. The soaring figure reveals to sight and mind the immensity and glory of the visible world. Without it the blue sky can never seem sublime.

But the great soaring bird is nowhere in our lonely skies, and missing it we remember the reason of its absence and realise what the modern craze for the artificially reared pheasant has cost us.

THE MINNA ANTHONY COMMON NATURE CENTER

FRANK A. CLINCH

The Minna Anthony Common Nature Center is rapidly becoming an attraction for birders and all interested in nature and the outdoors. It was named for the late Mrs. Common who for many years maintained a nature trail on Wellesley Island. Mrs. Common was the founder and first president of the North Country Bird Club.

The Nature Center is on the western end of Wellesley Island in the beautiful Thousand Islands section of the St. Lawrence River. It has an area of 600 acres with water on three sides and contains a variety of habitats. It is maintained by the Thousand Islands State Park Commission. Robert Wakefield is the naturalist in charge.

The visitor should park at the museum. There he can see maps of the area. Perhaps there is some special event scheduled for that day, or he may go on a guided tour or explore a trail by himself. The exhibits in the museum are designed to interpret the natural history of the Nature Center. They include displays of birds, insects, plants and rocks. The two 400-gallon aquariums contain fish native to this area.

Development of the Nature Center began in 1967. Loop trails totaling eight miles were planned, and most of them are now completed. The trails pass through the woods and near swamps, ponds and the shores of Eel Bay so that one sees a variety of plants, animals and rocks. Goshawks have nested in the woods, and Wild Turkeys are often seen.

The Nature Center is reached by taking U.S. Rt. 81. When going north, cross the American span and turn off about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile beyond the foot of the bridge. Make a second and third right turn and go under 81. Go west from the bridge $\frac{1}{4}$ mile to the Cross Island Road. Go north $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the Nature Center turnoff. The Cross Island Road also leads to the Wellesley Island State Park where there are camping and other facilities. The Nature Center is open every day except for a few holidays.

173 Haley St., Watertown, N.Y. 13601

FEDERATION MEETING IN JUNE

The members of the John Burroughs Natural History Society are working energetically at their responsibilities as host to the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs, to be held June 4-6, 1971, at the Mohonk Mountain House, New Paltz, New York, 12561. Committee chairmen have been appointed; field trips are being outlined; volunteers for the papers session are coming in, and will be screened to give you the most rewarding three hours we can possibly devise. We can promise, a bit mysteriously, that the banquet speaker will be one of the most exciting you have ever heard, and his talk will be illustrated with motion pictures and live birds of prey.

For our Display Room we would like very much to receive a copy of the bulletin published by each member club, with information concerning the frequency of publication, average number of pages, and whether the material used is exclusively concerned with birds, or if it also includes conservation and ecology. Photographers who have pictures they would like to display; craftsmen and writers — all who have material to show are encouraged to contact Virginia Smiley, co-chairman at the address above.

We would also like to hear from people who have been involved in research, and who have papers they would like to present during the Saturday afternoon session. Presentations will be limited (always hopefully!) to fifteen minutes.

Since Mohonk will be new to many participants, a good number of the field trips, especially the shorter delegate trips, will be on the 7,500 acres surrounding the Mountain House. In addition to birding trips, there will be one available on the flora of Ulster County, another on the ecology of the gypsy moth, and one on bird banding and ecology. Off-mountain field trips will also be available to the habitat of the Bicknell's Thrush on Slide Mountain; to Cruger Island in the Hudson, a fine spot for warblers; to Slabsides, the studio of John Burroughs, also a good area for natural and human history; to Ashokan Reservoir for water fowl; and to the local Little Wings Sanctuary. We would be happy to hear of any preferences or suggestions.

A variety of accommodations will be available to those who do not wish to stay at the Mountain House. Some may wish to camp at one of the several campsites on the property, and there are motels in New Paltz.

Details of accommodations available, rates, details on field trips, and convention programs will be mailed at a later date.

FIELD NOTES

Red-tailed Hawk Attempts Piracy of Sparrow Hawk?: Because Brown and Amadon (1968, *Eagles, Hawks and Falcons of the World*, part 1, p. 73) mention that piracy is rather rare in birds of prey (excepting certain species which make a regular habit of it), I thought the following incident worth noting. At 12:38 E.S.T. on 5 April 1970 I observed a male Sparrow Hawk, *Falco sparverius*, perched on a telephone wire along a highway in Ithaca, N.Y. The highway edges a housing development and the bird apparently was still hunting a fall-ploughed field opposite the houses. The field had a thin snow cover. The temperature was 40°F. The sky was about 40% overcast with cumulus clouds and the wind was calm. I stopped to observe the Sparrow Hawk and at 12:43 he flushed, dropping to the field for a stoop. Shortly thereafter, he flew up carrying a small rodent (vole or shrew?) in his talons and landed about 20 yards south of the site of the kill. At 12:44 he was perched on a clod of soil and as yet had not begun to eat. Suddenly a Red-tailed Hawk, *Buteo jamaicensis*, appeared in the field of my 7 x 50mm. binoculars and the Sparrow Hawk flushed southward still carrying its prey which was very shortly dropped. He continued southward across the ploughed field heading for a woodlot about 200 yards away. The hawk actively pursued the falcon to the edge of the woodlot and stayed remarkably close to it (about four to five feet). The falcon attempted some evasive flight but it was for the most part direct to the woodlot edge. At that point the falcon perched and three Common Crows, *Corvus brachyrhynchos*, began mobbing the hawk. Although the Sparrow Hawk dropped the prey very shortly after flushing, it appeared that the Red-tailed Hawk was seeking the Sparrow Hawk's prey and had not seen him drop it. This is the same general vicinity where Allen (1962, *Kingbird*, XII, p. 22) observed a Red-tailed Hawk take prey from a domestic cat.

Richard J. Clark, Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14850.

Piping Plover at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge: At approximately 11:00 A.M. on April 22, 1970, I was driving along Main Pool Dike Drive just south of the New York State Thruway on the Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge, when two small pale shorebirds flew up from the road in front of my car. I recognized them as Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*), a species I was familiar with on the Massachusetts coast. As I knew this species to be rare in Central New York, I returned to Refuge Headquarters to report and to call other area birders, including Walter Benning who has had considerable experience with shorebirds. Returning to the dike I found the birds busily feeding, and for three hours they remained in a stretch of road approximately 300 yards long, flying up in front of oncoming vehicles and landing again behind the cars. A Killdeer made several attempts to drive the smaller birds from the area. At about 1:45 Walter Benning arrived and confirmed the identification. This is the first reported occurrence of the Piping Plover for the Refuge and for the Cayuga Lake Basin.

Mr. Benning has filed a detailed description in which he commented on the fact that the birds seemed to "disappear from view" when they turned their backs to the observer and completely blended in with the dusty road. It is perhaps interesting to note that the gravel road is the only suitable habitat in the area for such a bird, perhaps serving as a "beach."

Gerald A. Smith, 4173 Makyes Road, Syracuse, N.Y. 13215

Snipe Impaled on Cable: Late Wednesday afternoon, 28 October 1970, I was driving north on New York Route 11A, just north of Tully. On the east side of the road, I saw a bird hanging from a telephone cable.

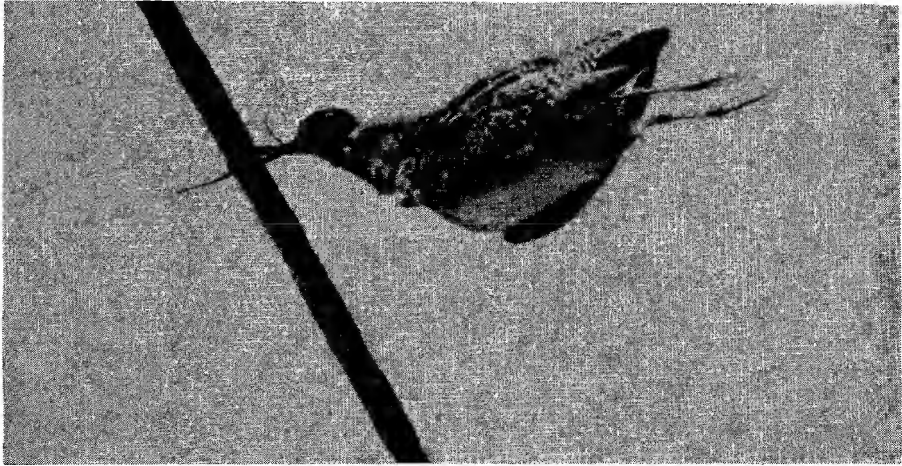
I stopped the car and examined the bird with binoculars. It was about 20 feet

over the road (directly over a highway marker 10.18). The bird was a Common Snipe, *Capella gallinago*.

The Snipe must have been flying directly east. Its lower mandible struck the cable. The bird flipped over the wire and hung there. The point of the lower mandible was still secured in the cable strands, with the bill forming a crook as it went over the wire.

I returned Thursday morning with long equipment to retrieve the snipe. Dorothy Crumb accompanied me and took several photographs. When the bird broke loose, the lower mandible remained in the cable.

C. B. Farnham, Jr., 115 Ames Ave., Syracuse, New York 13207.



Phalaropes Hawking Insects over the Water at Montezuma: While watching swallows, on Sept. 14, 1960 at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge, hawking insects following an abundant hatch, I discovered a Wilson's Phalarope (*Steganopus tricolor*) running along a mudflat, visible through the cattails in my 30x Balscope, apparently picking up food and occasionally jumping up in the air a few inches and snapping its bill as though catching an insect. After a few minutes it was joined by six Northern Phalaropes (*Lobipes lobatus*). Suddenly they all started flying low over the water hawking insects. For the next fifteen minutes, until it began to get dusk, there was furious activity as the phalaropes alternately swam, dabbled and spun in the water, and flew twisting and turning in the air, hawking insects a foot or so above the water.

The speed, agility, grace and beauty of the phalarope on the water can be matched in the air when they take to hawking insects.

Walter E. Benning, Clyde, N.Y. 14433

Sabine's Gull at Mecox Bay, Suffolk Co., New York: On August 25, 1970, at Mecox Bay, while looking over a group of Common Terns (*Sterna hirundo*), I discovered a Sabine's Gull (*Xema sabini*) among them. It was in breeding plumage, with a few flecks of white on its forehead. My attention was first attracted to the bird by the yellow tip on its bill. It stayed on the beach with the terns and permitted close approach. The bird had all field marks — black legs, yellow tipped black bill, hood, white forked tail, and conveniently flexed its wings on the ground to display the spectacular wing pattern. I flushed the bird, and again noted the wing and tail characteristics as it flew about 100 feet and resettled with the terns. There was a SE

storm on August 23, and it is possible that this weather brought him ashore. This is, I believe, the earliest fall date for this gull.

Mrs. Barbara Spencer, 154 Dayton Street, Sea Cliff, N.Y. 11579.

Ed. Note: This is apparently the 12th record of this species for Long Island. See *Kingbird* for January 1968 and January 1969 where the 10th and 11th records are reported.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FALL SEASON

FRITZ SCHEIDER

Autumn! Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness – and rarities! A veritable smorgasbord of rarities appeared across the state and a major banquet of same occurred on Long Island (v.i.). Fortunately not only rarities but a whole barn of other migrational data was harvested this season by an ever enlarging corps of birders.

Nearly all sectors agreed that fall was warm and wet with little really cold or snowy weather until late November. Consequently many warm weather waterbirds (herons, shorebirds, terns) and many insectivores, particularly certain flycatchers, thrushes, vireos, and warblers, established late and even record late departure dates. The consensus seemed universal that this was to be a winter without winter finches or Red-breasted Nuthatches, and no other northern landbird incursions, except possibly Northern Shrike, appeared evident. Upstate a universal complaint of high water preceded the apologia for such poor shorebird tallies, but downstate areas did very well, especially in Golden Plover.

Red-throated Loons were reported widely upstate (2, 3, 5, 6, 7) but the Great Lakes' Brant and scoter flights (2, 5, 6) were uniformly poor. Both regions 2 and 5 mentioned very poor numbers of dabbling ducks and of some diving ducks, probably secondary to the early intensive hunting pressure, but spectacular numbers were tallied at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge – the tally of 8000 Blue-winged Teal there may be a state record. Both Scaup species and Common Goldeneye numbers seemed lower when and where noted but this may be the negative side of the very mild weather of the period.

The picture on raptors is mixed; many more Accipiters were noted (3, 5, 9) and some impressive Broad-winged Hawk tallies were achieved in Regions 9 and 10. Both Red-shouldered and Marsh Hawks were noted as being almost universally decreased and the total numbers given for Rough-legged Hawks were low (3, 4, 5, 6) although reports were widespread. A few more Peregrine Falcons were noted (3, 5, 6, 9, 10) but the Pigeon Hawk seemed as scarce as or scarcer than ever. Ring-necked Pheasants were definitely decreased in Regions 3, 5, and 9 and so uniformly so that one might question if an epizootic rather than hunting pressure or habitat changes was responsible.

Shorebird tallies were kept low by the lack of habitat upstate but both Purple Sandpiper (2, 5, 6) and Buff-breasted Sandpiper (2, 3, 5, 10) were observed in unusual numbers; also inland numbers of all three species of phalaropes seemed above average. The only Ruff for the period was a July bird from Long Island. Parasitic and Pomarine Jaegers were recorded on Lake Ontario (2, 5, 6) and a Parasitic Jaeger from Lake Champlain (7) might be a drifter from the suspected Hudson Bay - Great Lakes - Atlantic Ocean route.

Whip-poor-wills, rarely mentioned in the fall, established record departures upstate (3, 5) and more migrant Common Nighthawks were noted. Equally impressive were the high September counts of migrant Flickers (2, 5, 6) and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. Increased numbers of Yellow-bellied Flycatchers (3, 5) were matched by some amazing totals on Philadelphia Vireo (3, 5, 9, 10); however, numbers of swallows, especially Tree (3, 5) and possibly Bank (3), upstate appeared reduced; it would be interesting to know if the tremendous Tree Swallow congregations on Long Island have shown any recent reduction. Both Tufted Titmouse (4, 5, 6) and Mockingbird (4, 5, 9) increases received documentation in this report but the Carolina Wren upstate is mentioned as singles only here and there (2, 3, 4). Pleasantly greater numbers of migrant Bluebirds were mentioned in Regions 3 and 5 - when was the last time you saw 50 Bluebirds in New York State? Heavy flights of both Golden-crowned and Ruby-crowned Kinglets were observed (5, 7, 9) but few November holdovers of the latter were mentioned, this despite the warm weather. And if the winter finches did not come south, by heaven, the Cedar Waxwings did - September and October tallies in Regions 3, 5, and 9 were frankly impressive.

Heavy warbler migrations were reported September 15-19, 24-26 (upstate), 27-28 (downstate with a kill at the Empire State Building), and October 6, 14-16 (upstate) and 17-18 (downstate). Numbers in central New York (3, 4, 5) seemed rather low or, at least, very spotty but heavy flights (numbers not given) were reported in both Regions 7 and 9; the many late dates (q.v.), even in the Adirondack Mountains, attest to the protracted warm weather this fall.

A few Evening Grosbeaks appear to be the only evidence of the existence of winter finches and, except for the range expansions of the House Finch and, to a lesser degree, of the Cardinal, that portion of the Fringillid list is a washout. Numbers of emberizine sparrows seemed up somewhat and a splendid pot-pourri of rare (LeConte's, Sharp-tailed, Clay-colored Sparrows) and semi-rare (Lincoln's Sparrow, Oregon Junco) species was reported.

Rarae aves for the period include Eared Grebe (9, 10), Little Blue Heron (5), Cattle Egret (3, 9), Snowy Egret (3), Blue Goose (7), Common Eider (2, 6), Purple Gallinule (2), Marbled Godwit (3), Hudsonian Godwit (6), Parasitic Jaeger (6), Franklin's Gull (5), House Finch

(3, 4, 5), Sharp-tailed Sparrow (3), and Clay-colored Sparrow (3). I recommend a careful reading of all the Region 10 report which has enough rarities in it to make one drool and wish for tides and salt water someplace – any place – upstate.

It is regretted that summaries were unavailable from Regions 1 and 8.
417 South Main Street, North Syracuse, N.Y. 13212

REGION 2 — GENESEE

RICHARD T. O'HARA

We enjoyed a long and mild fall season this year until a few days before Thanksgiving when a cold front accompanied by several inches of snow changed the scene to winter almost overnight. Rainfall was consistently above normal and well-distributed through the period. For the second successive year, we seemed headed for above normal precipitation, probably by several inches. This follows a cycle of many dry years through most of the past decade.

The fall migration was not spectacular in the last part of August and early September with the exception of a few noteworthy records mentioned below. Perhaps this was chiefly because we again had to look hard to find suitable shorebird habitat and also because steady, mild weather before mid-September appeared somewhat to delay the migration of many passerine species.

Nevertheless, after mid-September, birding improved steadily and the total impression of most observers was that we had the best fall warbler migration in years. Many of these species were still present well into early October and, following a good spring flight, it was indeed encouraging.

October and November were two of the best months, as always in this climate, and many interesting records are cited below. The duck flight did not appear especially heavy, although in much of this region duck hunting prevents concentrated build-up, especially of shallow water species. Flights of divers were at least normal and in some species may have improved over recent poor years.

So far northern finches and other erratic winter visitants have been scarce. In the case of several no reports have been received to date. Usually a heavy flight can be seen building up in late October and November so the outlook for the winter season appears dim in this respect.

Most unusual records include: King Eider, Peregrine Falcon, Purple Gallinule, all three Phalaropes, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Purple Sandpiper, Pomarine Jaeger, Parasitic Jaeger, Black-legged Kittiwake, Orange-crowned Warbler, Pine Warbler.

Observers cited in text: JC—Jerry Czech; GD—Certude Davis; JF—John Foster; AEK—Allen E. Kemnitz; BK—Bea Kemnitz; WL—Warren Lloyd; WCL—Walter C. Listman; J and TM—Joseph and Thelma McNett; mob—many observers; RO'H—Richard O'Hara; SO—Steven Oresman; GP—Glenn Perrigo; GOS—Genesee Ornithological Society; MAS—Mary Ann Sunderlin; TT—Thomas Tetlow.

Locations: BB—Braddocks Bay; DP—Durand Park; HBP—Hamlin Beach Park; MB—Manitou Beach; MP—Mendon Ponds; OB—Ontario Beach; SB—Sodus Bay; WP—Webster Park.

LOONS—DUCKS: Red-throated Loons reached a peak on November 21 when 34 were noted at WP (AEK). The best count of Whistling Swan was 17 on November 24 (WCL); there were some still present at the end of November. 2 Least Bitterns were noted at BB on August 19 (RO'H) and another was seen in the same place on September 19.

The fall flight of Brant was somewhat late this year with the best count being

2,500 on November 3 MB (WCL). A single Snow Goose along with one Blue Goose was noted at MP on November 27. The Canada Goose flight in the immediate Rochester area may not have been quite as heavy as most recent years. Some good concentrations of ducks did appear including a count of 290 Mallards at MP on November 1 (GP); 8 Gadwall at WP on October 18 (WL); 100 American Widgeon at the same place by the same observer; 50 Wood Duck in Fairport on September 19 (TT); and a flock of 3000+ Scaup (sp²) at DP for several days including November 1. In addition, 150 White-winged Scoter were noted at SB on October 24 (TT); 10 Surf Scoter and 3 Ruddy Ducks were at HB on October 24 (GOS). A single Common Eider was at the West Spit BB on November 23 (WCL), and the same observer noted a King Eider there only two days later. The best count of Hooded Merganser was 100 at SB on November 24 (WCL).

HAWKS—OWLS: While nothing like the spring hawk flights takes place in this region in fall, we usually do note small flights of a few species, sometimes just scattered individuals along the lakeshore. This year 15 Broad-winged Hawks and 2 Red-tails were seen in a group on August 15 near Webster (JC). In addition, a single Cooper's Hawk was noted on October 4 and another on November 1, both moving east along the lakeshore (RO'H). Bald Eagles were reported from three separate localities, although the only resident pair in the region again apparently did not breed. A single Peregrine Falcon was reported October 8 at Webster (JC).

The most noteworthy fall record and a regional first was an immature Purple Gallinule picked up alive along a country road near Scottsville in Livingston County on October 4; it was taken by John Brown and Jerry Czech to the Monroe County Zoo where at last report it was still thriving; there is no certainty whether or not the bird was reared in this area.

A high count of 1,000 Coot was made on Conesus Lake November 25 (WCL).

Shorebird habitat was generally rather poor until late in the season, but the following records are of interest:

<i>Species</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Observers</i>
Killdeer	Sept 15	300	Lima	JF
Golden Plover	Sept 12	125	Kendall	Dutcher, WCL
Golden Plover	Sept 15	200	Lima	JF
Black-bellied Plover	Nov 1	25	Hamlin	MAS, WL
Solitary Sandpiper	Sept 1	8	Ellison Park	Doherty
Knot	Aug 30	5	Ontario Beach	RO'H
Purple Sandpiper	Nov 21-27	1-4	Braddock's Bay	mob
White-rumped Sandpiper	Oct 24	1	Braddock's Bay	GOS
Baird's Sandpiper	Sept 6	8	Kendall	WCL
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	Sept 6	1	Lima	JF
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	Sept 6	3	Kendall	WCL
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	Sept 13	4	Kendall	WCL
Dunlin	Oct 24	80	Braddock's Bay	GOS
Semipalmated Sandpiper	Nov 1	5	Braddock's Bay	MAS, WL
Red Phalarope	Nov 22	5	Sea Breeze	Dutchers et al.
Northern Phalarope	Aug 30	2	Irondequoit Bay	J and TM
Northern Phalarope	Nov 21	2	Sea Breeze	mob
Wilson's Phalarope	Sept 6	1	Ontario Beach	A and BK

Among the most interesting birds reported in recent years are growing numbers of jaegers. Perhaps these were overlooked in the years before 1960 or so, but they are now seen quite regularly in small numbers in the fall. This year the Pomarine was reported three times as follows: September 5, 1 at MB (WCL); October 24, 1 at HBP (GOS); and November 24, 3 at Sodus Bluff (WCL). This latter record may be the first time more than one of these birds has ever been seen here in a day. The

usually more commonly reported Parasitic Jaeger was noted only on November 3, 1 at MB (WCL).

The gulls were not as spectacular this fall as last year, but 5,000 Bonaparte Gulls were along the east lake shore on November 21 (AEK). In addition, 5 Black-legged Kittiwake were seen passing by SB on November 24 (WCL). Single Little Gulls were noted at Ontario Beach (GOS) and at IB (WL) on September 20.

Single Forster's Terns were seen at BB on September 5 and 9 (WCL) and on October 4 (RO'H); another bird of this species was at Ontario Beach September 19 (AEK). A late Common Tern was still at BB on November 8 (WCL), and a single Caspian Tern was at the same place on November 1 (WL and MAS).

Owls were almost unreported this fall with the exception of a single Short-eared Owl in Avon on November 24 (SO). No Snowy Owls were reported to the end of November. A cat-like call at Reed Road in late November (10 P.M.) may have been a Long-eared Owl.

GOATSUCKERS—STARLINGS: The last Ruby-throated Hummingbird was one on October 8 near Ellison Park (GD). About 300 Yellow-shafted Flickers were reported on September 15 near Lima (JF). A late Wood Pewee was still in Webster on October 11 (MAS). A Carolina Wren was noted in Webster on August 23 (J and TM) and again on September 27. One Short-billed Marsh Wren was seen in N. Avon on August 26 (JF).

As noted above, some species lingered rather late, especially during October. These include Swainson's and Gray-checked Thrushes last seen on October 18 and October 14 respectively. Both of these were noted in Webster by (WL). The last Wood Thrush was one still present on November 26, also in Webster (MAS); this bird was appearing in her yard regularly through the month of November.

One report was received of Water Pipit, 15 in Avon on November 25 (SO).

VIREO—WARBLERS: In an especially good flight of many of these species, the following records seem worthy of note:

<i>Species</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>No.</i>		<i>Observers</i>
Solitary Vireo	Oct 18	1	Webster	Dittrich
Golden-winged Warbler	Aug 25	1	Powder Mill Park	J and TM
Blue-winged Warbler	Aug 29	1	Avon	Dittrich
Orange-crowned Warbler	Oct 13, 14	1	Webster	WL
Nashville Warbler	Oct 11	5	Webster	WL
Parula Warbler	Oct 11	3	Webster	WL
Black-throated Blue Warbler	Oct 17	1	Ellison Pk Hgts	GD
Blackburnian Warbler	Oct 11	2	Webster	MAS
Blackpoll Warbler	Oct 11	13	Webster	MAS
Pine Warbler	Oct 24	1	Hamlin B Park	GOS
Hooded Warbler	Sept 27	1	Webster Park	WL

Many of these reports are noteworthy chiefly because of the rather late departure dates.

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: The best report of Rusty Blackbird this fall came from Fairport where about 200 were present through most of October (TT). As noted above, almost all the winter finches were completely missing to the end of the period. A single Pine Siskin was noted with large flocks of Goldfinches on September 19 (RO'H). On the same date, large numbers of migrants were found along the lakeshore and especially in Durand-Eastman Park. Among them were many White-crowned Sparrows, White-throated Sparrows and Juncos. For the next three or four weeks, these species and many others were evident as the bulk of small migrants went through the region at a leisurely pace.

Among the best counts of Sparrows were the following: Chipping Sparrow 200,

September 15 at Lima (JF); Field Sparrow 50, same place and date (JF); Slate-colored Junco 500, October 14-15 at MB (WCL). A single Lincoln's Sparrow was seen in Webster on October 16 (JM). One Oregon Junco appeared at Sunderlin's residence in Webster on October 11 and was still present on the 30th (MAS).

The first Snow Bunting was noted at OB on October 24 (COS), a bit late, and the best count was 60 to 70 moving east at Round Pond on November 1 (RO'H).

265 Carling Road, Rochester, New York 14610

REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

DOROTHY McILROY AND SALLY HOYT SPOFFORD

Except for August, the entire period was warmer than usual and November was much wetter than normally. September 21-26 was unusually warm with temperatures more like July and August. On October 16 and 17 there was a remarkably heavy early snowfall, 4-6 inches in the Finger Lakes area, followed by the first hard freeze, October 17, about ten days to two weeks later than normal. Precipitation in November was rain instead of snow. In the Ithaca area, 3.47 inches of rain fell during the first half of November, the normal amount for the entire month being 3.04 inches. The first real cold and snow did not occur until November 24-25.

Seed and fruit crops were generally plentiful, wild apple and grape being especially heavy.

At MNWR, the Canada Goose peak equalled last year's record high. Peak numbers for Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Redhead, Ring-neck, Ruddy Duck and Hooded Merganser were way up from last year, the teal and Ruddy Duck spectacularly so; Pintail, Shoveler, Canvasback and Scaup were in slightly better numbers than last year; Common Merganser was down and Green-winged Teal back down after last fall's unusually high number.

Land bird migration was noted September 13-15, (especially thrushes and warblers) and September 24-26. Following the snow and cold front October 16-17, many Robins appeared. The cold wave of November 24 brought ducks into the Watkins Glen area, including at least 100 Oldsquaw. Good weather during migration kept tower kills at Elmira low, the only large numbers being 77 on September 15 and 60 on October 14. The year's total was 220 birds of 37 species (300 of 44 species in '69); two new species were added October 14: a Whip-poor-will and two Chipping Sparrows. The kill included six Yellow-bellied Flycatchers and 143 warblers of 21 species. More Bluebird reports this fall than for the past few years.

Large areas of trees were cut beyond both ends of the Tompkins County airport runways, near Sapsucker Woods Sanctuary, changing the habitat from woods to what will probably be brushy fields.

An American Flamingo appeared at MNWR on November 18 (DM, mob), probably the same one reported in September south of Holcomb, at Iroquois Refuge and in mid-October at Verona Beach on Oneida Lake. It stayed at Montezuma until Nov 23, was seen flying west of Syracuse, found at Onondaga Lake where it finally died. On November 25 the specimen was brought to the Laboratory of Ornithology where an autopsy was performed. The whole body was covered with diesel oil; trachea and windpipe were coated with light oil and a clot of waxy material found in the digestive tract just ahead of the gizzard. Such clots are usually associated with ingestion of petroleum products. From the condition of the scales on the tarsus, James Tate suggests it was an escape, although the plumage was in excellent condition.

An immature Golden Eagle, starved and weak, was picked up near Howland's Island on Nov 12, taken to MNWR, and then to Sapsucker Woods. Walter Spofford, with the assistance of Jim Grier, succeeded in restoring it to health and strength—the eagle ate approximately two pounds of meat daily. (Under supervision of the

U.S. F. and W. Service, in cooperation with the U.S. Forestry Service, the Spoffords took this rare bird to a known wintering eagle ground in the southern Appalachians in December and released it.)

Rarities included Red-throated Loon, Cattle Egret, Snowy Egret, Golden Eagle, Marbled Godwit, Connecticut Warbler, House Finch, Sharp-tailed Sparrow, Clay-colored Sparrow (in tower kill at Elmira).

Observers: WEB—Walter E. Benning; MB—Mollie Briant; JB—Jack Brubaker; MC—Mildred Comar; VD—Vernon Dewey, WMG—William M. Groesbeck; FG—Frank Guthrie; ML—Malcolm Lerch; DL—Doris Long; DM—Dorothy McIlroy; DBP—David Peakall; SHS—Sally H. Spofford; WRS—Walter R. Spofford; MS—Margaret Shepherd; ST—Stanley Temple.

Area Compilers: Walter Benning, Jack Brubaker, Vernon Dewey, William Groesbeck, Frank Guthrie, Wilfred Howard, Doris Long, Jayson Walker and Mary Welles.

Localities: Cay L—Cayuga Lake; WD—Waterloo Dump; MNWR—Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge.

LOON—DUCKS: Common Loon: 1 Oct 18 MNWR (WEB); 19 Nov 2 Cay L s. of Aurora being harassed by gulls (DM); 1 still at MNWR Nov 22. RED-THROATED LOON: 1 Oct 21 to at least Nov 19 MNWR (mob). Horned Grebe: first Oct 13 Stewart Park Ithaca (DM); max 12 Cay L Nov 23 (DBP). Pied-billed Grebe: max 400 last week Aug MNWR. Double-crested Cormorant: 2 Aug 16-Sep 14, 4 Sep 14–27 MNWR (WEB). Great Blue Heron: max 60 last week Aug MNWR; singles reported to end of period. Green Heron: max 75 last of Aug MNWR. CATTLE EGRET: 1 Oct 29 near Himrod, Keuka Pk area (Hunt Wheelers); 4 Nov 5 and 1 Nov 13–14 n. of Horseheads (WH). Common Egret: max 7 Aug 16 MNWR (WEB). SNOWY EGRET: 3 Sep 4 MNWR (fide VD). Black-crowned Night Heron: max 50 Aug 31 MNWR; last (rather late) Nov 19 (SHS). Least Bittern: max 5 Aug 31 MNWR. American Bittern: singles seen through period MNWR (WEB); almost no other reports.

Whistling Swan: first, 1 Oct 18 Lowe Pond near Elmira (fide WH); max 20 Nov 28 MNWR (WEB). Canada Goose: max MNWR 10,000 week of Nov 28. Brant: imm Nov 5 Montour Falls (JB); individuals seen over MNWR in Nov. Snow Goose: max MNWR 25 week of Oct 26. Blue Goose: imm shot late Oct near Odessa (fide JB); max MNWR 7 in Nov (WEB). Most dabbling ducks left MNWR Nov 24 with the freeze-up. Peak counts of ducks at MNWR and week of peak numbers (VD): Mallard 15,000 Nov 23; Black 5000 Nov 23; Gadwall 2450 Sep 28 to Oct 26; Pintail 3000 Nov 2 to Nov 23; Green-winged Teal 550 Oct 12 to 25 (6500 in '69); Blue-winged Teal: 8000 Sep 21 & 28 (41 in '69); American Widgeon 10,000 Nov 2–23; Ring-neck: 1000 Oct 19 to Nov 16; Canvasback 500 Nov 16–30; Scaup 500 Nov 16 & 23; Common Goldeneye 50 Nov 23; Bufflehead 100 Nov 9–23; Ruddy 500 Nov 2–16 (25 in '69); Hooded Merganser 1000 Nov 23 (150 in '69); Common Merganser: 100 Nov 16–Nov 30.

Other duck reports: Wood Duck: 200, mostly males, Oct 4 nr Elmira (Stasches), most still there Nov 19. Ring-necked Duck and Scaup: first Oct 3 MNWR (WEB). Common Goldeneye: first, 10, week of Oct 26 MNWR (WEB). Bufflehead: first, 10, week of Oct 19 MNWR (VD). Oldsquaw: first Nov 8 Penn Yan Marsh (F. Orcutt) early; 100 Nov 24 Watkins Glen (JB). Common Merganser: first, 5, MNWR week of Oct 19.

HAWKS—OWLS: Little migration of hawks was noted at Waterloo, Watkins Glen and Keuka Park. Flight noticed at Etna Sep 19. Accipiters seemed to be more in evidence in Watkins area (JB). Turkey Vulture: 2 Oct 29 MNWR (WEB). Goshawk: imm male mid-Aug Brooktondale (W Longaker); ad male Aug 18 Brooktondale (ST). Cooper's Hawk: at least 8 trapped at Ithaca Game Farm; 1 seen Nov 30 Taughannock (DBP). Sharp-shinned Hawk: first report of the year for Elmira,

1 Sep 3 (E. Knapp). Red-tailed Hawk: several shot near Ithaca during hunting season, including one of the very dark race (WRS); up to 11 at MNWR in Nov (WEB). Broad-winged Hawk: scattered migration reported, 63 went over Etna Sep 19 (WRS); several seen going over Elmira TV tower same day (WH,DL). Rough-legged Hawk: first Oct 29 Dryden (DBP); quite a few Nov records; max 6 Nov 19 MNWR. *GOLDEN EAGLE*: imm Nov 12 nr MNWR (See introductory remarks.) Bald Eagle: imm seen off and on MNWR, last seen Nov 14 (WEB). Marsh Hawk: singles seen at MNWR during period; only one fall report Ithaca area, that of 1 over Etna Sep 19 (SHS). Osprey: first, 2 Aug 26 MNWR, last seen there Sep 20 (WEB); 1 Etna Oct 2 until found shot Oct 15, subsequently died (SHS). Peregrine Falcon: imm Sep 29 nr Dryden (T Cade); 1 Oct 28 Ithaca (Dr. Fabricant) chasing pigeons at Cornell Avian Disease Lab; 1 Oct 31 Elmira (WH,DL). Pigeon Hawk: 1 Sept report MNWR; imm male Oct 19 Etna (WRS); 1 Oct 29 s of Aurora (DM). Sparrow Hawk: 9 between Ithaca and Newark Nov 30, a high count (DBP).

Ruffed Grouse: reports mixed, some say population still way down, others report good numbers. Ring-necked Pheasant: late reports indicate people did not see as many this fall as anticipated from abundance last June; plentiful in King Ferry area. Turkeys apparently did fairly well this year.

Virginia Rail: max MNWR 7 Aug 16, last 1 Sep 14 (WEB). Sora: last 1 MNWR Sep 27 (WEB). Coot: max 5000 weeks of Nov 2 & 9 MNWR; max s end Cay L 220 Nov 30 (DBP).

High water left little shorebird habitat anywhere in the Region. The shallow area at MNWR was way out from the dike, making identification of the 'peep' difficult or impossible. Fewer shorebirds were found at the Waterloo Dump area where settling basins were created at the adjacent canning factory instead of spraying the effluent out on a field as was done in the last two years. Unless otherwise noted, shorebird records are from MNWR and by WEB. Semipalmated Plover: max 20 Aug 16 and 22; last, 1 Sep 20. Killdeer: last, 15 Nov 22. Golden Plover: 1 first, Aug 29; max 20 Sep 20 WD (WEB); 2 Oct 9 and 13 Warren Rd Ponds Ithaca (DM). Black-bellied Plover: max 13 Sep 19; last 2 Sep 26. Woodcock: 20 Aug 31 MNWR (VD); numbers good Ithaca area (P. Kelsey); up to 5/day during hunting season in Nov in Watkins area (JB). Common Snipe: max 17 Nov 14. Solitary Sandpiper: 2 Aug 16 MNWR (VD); last, 1 Sep 30 WD (WEB). Greater Yellowlegs: max 20 Sep 4; last, 1 Nov 30 Sheldrake (DBP). Lesser Yellowlegs: max 123 Aug 16; last, 5 Nov 14. Knot: only record, 1 Aug 16. Pectoral Sandpiper: max 55 Aug 22; last, 1 Nov 21 WD (WEB). White-rumped Sandpiper: 1 Oct 13 Warren Rd Pds Ithaca (DM); 1 Nov 19 MNWR (F. G. Scheider); 1 Nov 22. Least Sandpiper: max 38 Aug 22; last, 2 Nov 21 WD (WEB). Dunlin: first, 5 Sep 19; max 70 Nov 8 WD (WEB); 1 still present MNWR Nov 29. Short-billed Dowitcher: max 40 Aug 22; last 4 Nov 7. Long-Billed Dowitcher: first, 1 Oct 4; max 16 Oct 8 (VD); last, 2 Nov 14. Stilt Sandpiper: unusually good year: 1 Aug 29 (VD); max 48 Sep 16; 1 Oct 6 (MS, MC). Buff-breasted Sandpiper: 1 Sep 1 Rushville beet cannery ponds, Keuka area (fide FG, 10 observers). *MARBLED GODWIT*: 1 Aug 27 to Sep 11 (WEB,mob) verification report on file, second Cay Basin record. Hudsonian Godwit: 1 Oct 3 seen till Nov 1. Wilson's Phalarope: single seen to Sep 20. Northern Phalarope: first, 3 Aug 16 (VD); max 8 Sep 5; last, 2 Oct 4.

Great Black-backed Gull: first, 2 Sep 9 MNWR. Caspian Tern: only two reports: 2 Aug 16 MNWR (WEB); 1 Sep 19 Watkins Glen (JB). Short-eared Owl: 1 Oct 24 near Elmira (M. Welles) flushed in cornfield. Saw-whet Owl: 1 mid-Oct Beam Hill Rd. near Dryden (Riker).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Common Nighthawk: small flight at Hornell—first 2 Sep 2, consecutive day counts 12, 3, 24, 7, 6, 4 (Sep 8) none thereafter; max reported 50 Sep 4 Elmira (A. Orbison); 2 Sep 15 Etna (WRS); no record Keuka. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 1 near Ithaca Sep 24 drank beer from glass (Hoff-

man); 1 Sep 28 on roses Etna (SHS). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: last, 1 imm Nov 22 Burdett (JB). Red-bellied Woodpecker: at feeder in Odessa Oct and Nov (B. Strath). Red-headed Woodpecker: report received late of 3 young raised on Wells College Campus, Aurora; 2 adults and 2 imm early Sep Watkins Glen (JB). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 1 banded Aug 22, another Aug 29 Penn Yan (ML); 6 killed Elmira TV tower (WH).

Numbers of migrating swallows were down: Tree: max 2000 Sep 22 MNWR (WEB); last Oct 12 Dryden L (DBP). Bank: max 500 Aug 27 and Sep 9 and last Sep 27 MNWR (WEB). Rough-winged: last, 1 Oct 3 MNWR (WEB) Barn: last, 1 Oct 9 MNWR (G. A. Smith, Ted Dittrich). Cliff: 1 Sep 9 MNWR (WEB).

Red-breasted Nuthatch: no flight; regular late Oct and Nov Watkins Glen State Pk (JB); 1 Oct 14 at feeder Ithaca (DM); 1 Oct and Nov at feeder in Newfield (H. Ostrowski). Winter Wren: scarce; 1 Oct 15 near Etna (WRS); 1 Newman Golf Course, Ithaca (MB). Carolina Wren: 1 report, early Oct Keuka (FG). Hermit Thrush: last Nov 14 Watkins Glen (JB). Swainson's Thrush: 50 banded Penn Yan (ML). Gray-cheeked Thrush: 30 banded Penn Yan (ML). Eastern Bluebird: late report of 2 nesting areas, at Arkport and North Hornell (fide WMG) in nest boxes at new developments 1400-1500 ft. elevation; more numerous Keuka area, 52 observations (FG); 8 Sep 5 Trumansburg (WEB); flock Sep 11 Havana Glen nr Montour Falls (M. Secor); 50 Sep 19 Beers Hill Rd nr Elmira (G. Wilcox); 50 Oct 4 nr Breeseport (WH, J. Beatty); 15 or more into first week Nov Ithaca area (W. Smith.)

Golden-crowned Kinglet: first Oct 4 Warren Rd Pds Ithaca (DBP); 40 banded Penn Yan (ML). Ruby-crowned Kinglet: max 12 Oct 12 Ithaca (DBP); 48 banded Penn Yan (ML). Water Pipit: several reports of small flocks n of Ithaca early Oct. Cedar Waxwing: abundant, many reports Ithaca, Hornell, Watkins, Keuka (flocks up to 25). Northern Shrike: 1 Nov 29 nr Dryden (T. Cade); another report same week Ithaca area. Loggerhead Shrike: 1 late Aug Keuka (FG); otherwise missing.

VIREOS-WARBLES: Solitary Vireo: 1 banded Oct 9 Penn Yan (ML). Red-eyed Vireo: 6 Sep 15 Dryden L (DBP). Philadelphia Vireo: 3 banded Aug 29 Penn Yan (ML); 1 Oct 6 s of Aurora (MS, mob).

Golden-winged Warbler: male Aug 16 and 26 MNWR (WEB). Nashville: last, Oct 6 Dryden L (DBP). **YELLOW WARBLER**: very late record, Nov 11 MNWR (H. Axtell), verification report on file, Magnolia, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Blackburnian, Bay-breasted and Palm (3) last date Oct 8 Bald Hill Rd s of Ithaca (MC,MS). Myrtle: a few still present mid-Nov. Chestnut-sided: last Oct 6 s of Aurora (MB). Blackpoll: last, week of Oct 6. Ovenbird: last, 1 Sep 20 MNWR (WEB). Connecticut: rare, 1 banded Sep 19 Penn Yan (ML); imm Oct 1 Sapsucker Woods (MC,MS). Mourning: 1 banded Sep 19, 2 banded in Oct Penn Yan (ML). Canada: last, 1 Sep 20 MNWR (WEB). American Redstart: last Sep 30 Dryden (DBP).

BLACKBIRDS-SPARROWS: Red-winged Blackbird: 10,000 Oct 20 Waterloo (JW). Several large flocks of icterids, some mixed, some pure Redwing Nov 2 near n end Cay L (MB,DM). Baltimore Oriole: 1 Nov 12 near Townsend (JB), late. Orchard Oriole: Ithaca bird (see previous reports) last seen Aug 18 (V. Hannan). Rusty Blackbird: 50 plus Nov 21 MNWR (WEB). Common Grackle: 25,000 Oct 18 nr Waterloo (JW).

Few reports of winter finches during period. Evening Grosbeak: first, 2 Oct 29 Watkins Glen (JB); scattered reports in Nov, max 12 Nov 4 Elmira (WH) and Nov 11 W Dryden (DBP). **HOUSE FINCH**: pair Oct 25 Elmira at feeder (WH), probably same pair reported at nearby feeder Nov 21 on (H. Snyder). **SHARP-TAILED SPARROW**: 1 Sep 29 MNWR (WEB). Vesper Sparrow: reported until mid-Nov Ithaca. Tree Sparrow: first Oct 24 Dryden (DBP). Chipping and Field Sparrows: last Nov 10 sw corner Cay L (MB,DM). **CLAY-COLORED SPARROW**: 1 Oct 18 killed at Elmira TV tower, specimen saved. White-crowned Sparrow:

numerous Oct 29 Dryden (M. Baker); scarce Keuka area, only 2 banded Penn Yan (ML). White-throated Sparrow: over 100 banded Penn Yan (ML). Fox Sparrow: last Nov 17 Elmira (R. Knapp). Lincoln's Sparrow: 1 Oct 6 n of Ithaca (MB,MS); 2 banded Oct at Penn Yan (ML). Lapland Longspur: first, 1 Oct 31 Harris Hill Elmira (WH,DL). Snow Bunting: first, 2 Oct 28 MNWR (T. Carrolan, G. Randorf); largest flock reported, 75-100 Oct 31 Dutch Hill Elmira (WH,DL).

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REGION 4 — SUSQUEHANNA

LESLIE E. BEMONT

This being the first report from the Susquehanna Region in four issues it is more concerned with recording some of the more important reports that have accumulated in a full year than with the fall migration, the normal subject matter in this issue. One of the more obvious features of this neglected fall migration that can be reported in a minimum of space is the almost complete absence of incoming "winter finches." Only a very few Evening Grosbeaks have been reported so far to go with our more or less permanent resident Purple Finches and Goldfinches. Even the latter two species are less than abundant suggesting a colorless winter at the feeders.

Two seemingly contradictory trends that have been with us for a number of years seem accentuated when we look at a whole year's records at one time: namely, the extension of the range of some more southerly species into our area and the presence of more and more of several more northerly breeding species during the summer. There can be no doubt that the increase of Cardinals, Mockingbirds and Tufted Titmice is real, over the years, and possibly we should consider Barred Owls and Turkey Vultures from the same point of view. The last two years might even make us optimistic about Kentucky Warblers also moving in, but that is probably too much to hope for. We should remember that Carolina Wrens and Yellow-breasted Chats never seem to quite make it.

The increase in the number of northern species reported in the summer time could, however, be the result of observer education and better coverage, particularly since these species are usually reported from more remote locations and higher elevations. The number of Golden-crowned Kinglets, Myrtle Warblers, Red-breasted Nuthatches and White-throated Sparrows being reported now makes that hard to believe, however. Some of the other species that can be considered in this group are Common Mergansers, Goshawks and Hermit, Swainson's and Gray-cheeked Thrushes. Only the Common Mergansers can really be considered to be extending their range.

Another trend of an entirely different nature is the increase in the number of House Finches. We now have our first breeding record and seem to be approaching the population explosion that has been close to inevitable since the success of the species introduction to the east coast.

Many of the species reported below would normally be listed as rarities but perhaps the Sandhill Crane and the Purple Gallinule should head the list, with the Blue Grosbeak not far behind. The almost identical circumstances under which a Double-crested Cormorant, a species seldom reported in the Region, and the Purple Gallinule, a species never before reported in the Region, were obtained is just an unexplainable coincidence.

Observers Initials: MB—Margaret Coon Bowman; LC—Mrs. Lynn Clark; GC—Gail Corderman; MC—Mitchel Cubberly; A,MD—Anna & Marilyn Davis; EF—Elizabeth Feldhusen; CG—Clinton Gerould; JAG—John A. Gustafson; CH—Claude Howard; VH—Virginia Hudson; RK—Richard Kaskan; ML—Margaret Lynch; M,DL—Margaret & Dwight Lynch; JN—John New; MS—Mary Sheffield; DW—Donald Weber; CW—

Cora Wellman; MW—Mildred White; R,SW—Ruth & Sally White; RW—Ruth Williams; KW—Kathryn Wilson; SW—Stuart Wilson.

Other Abbreviations: BBS—Breeding Bird Survey; BC—Binghamton Christmas Count, Jan. 1, 1970; WP—Whitney Point.

LOONS—DUCKS: Red-throated Loon: May 17 WP (MS), seen soon after 3 Commons—smaller, much slenderer, upturned bill and shorter neck, only the third record for the Region in 18 years. Red-necked Grebe: 1 Apr 5 WP (MS). Double-crested Cormorant: 1 May 21 Endwell (L. Loomis), picked up from a city lawn and held by a veterinarian a few days. Snowy Egret: May 13 Owego (MW), no details. Mute Swan: Apr 18 Chenango Swamp at Truxton (M. Card). Whistling Swan: 1 Mar 27 Campville (RW), the only report. Brant: 1 week of Oct 9 Oneonta (JN). Snow Goose: Apr 20 Cortland (JAG). Blue-winged Teal: 3 Mar 29 Smithboro (RW), early but several more scattered reports within a few days; 9 Aug 30 Owego (MW, CG). Redhead: 3 Jan 31 Flemingville Creek (M,DL); 2 Mar 8 Cortland (W. Stupke). Common Scoter: 12 Oct 18 on pond north of Johnson City (MS, R. Sheffield). Common Merganser: 3 on BC; 42 on waterfowl count in mid-Jan; 3 broods at East Branch, Jun 20 8 ducklings one-half adult size, Jul 21 8 one-half adult size and Jul 22 11 three-quarters adult size (MB); first flight after molt Aug 25, max 19.

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: 1 Mar 15 Hancock (R. Dirig); reported from many parts of Region in Apr and May; 11 at East Branch Jun 24 (MB) the maximum count; 9 Jul 15 Cannonsville Reservoir (R,SW); 8 Jul 22 Cherry Valley (Mrs. H. W. Moore). Black Vulture: one with turkey vultures Jul 22 at Cherry Valley (Mrs. H. W. Moore), "white wingtips so was apparently a black vulture, rare in this latitude," Mrs. Moore a frequent visitor to Florida so experienced with species. Goshawk: 2 on BC (MS); seen frequently in area before and after; 1 Dec 7 Oneonta (KW,EF); Jan 17 Deposit (SW); 1 Feb 15 Andes (MC), after trying for and missing a tame duck perched on wire in back yard, allowing close inspection; 1 Mar 29 Candor (DW) dark wing tips and black head markings plainly visible as it flew past at close range; May 29 and 30 "a pair screaming through woods" in remote area at Milford, nest with two chicks found Jun 8, 1 fledged Jun 23 and other believed safely fledged later (CW); a successful nesting near Scott, in Cortland County (P. Kelsey). Red-shouldered Hawk: 1 Jan 4 Milford (EF,KW); at 3 places near Milford in Apr and May (CW). Broad-winged Hawk: a nesting pair at East Branch successfully fledged 4 young (MB). Rough-legged Hawk: 2 on BC, very few other reports; 1 Oct 4 Andes (I. Wright); 1 at Oxford Nov 24 and 30 (A. Stratton). Bald Eagle: 6 reports from Feb 5 to Apr 14, all in Otsego and Delaware Counties, including one report of two adults feeding on deer carcass in ice on Pepacton Reservoir Mar 5 (MC); Jul 4 South Owego (D. Bendle); an immature over Choconut Center Sep 26 (MS). Marsh Hawk: 10 reports from Feb 1 to May 31; 3 reports from Aug 26 to Oct 18. Osprey: 1 Mar 15 at Goodyear Lake near Oneonta (Gridley, Conner), the only one before Apr 10; then 21 reports to May 19; most common around Apr 25 and 26; 6 reports from Aug 28 to Oct 27. Peregrine Falcon: 1 Jan 31 and again Feb 8 Owego (CG), perched in tree near house—"at close range saw the face patches clearly." Pigeon Hawk: Apr 12, 14 and 16 at Cortland Water Works (Phil Clark); May 9 Delhi (LC). Bob-white: May 9 Freetown in Cortland County (Lois Stone); Jul 2 Nichols (VH). Turkey: 20 Jan 4 between Caroline and Richford (RK), said to be present regularly; at Delhi all winter (LC); also reported at Owego (D. Bendle) in Mar; 5 near Oquaga in eastern Broome County Oct 3 (S. Finkelstein). Sandhill Crane: 1 May 31 in Town of Virgil, Cortland County (Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Wood), grey with red patch on head, gave a rolling call "similar to drawing your thumb nail over the edge of a comb"—identification completed by picking call from tapes played for him at the Laboratory of Ornithology at Sapsucker Woods and by comparison with captive cranes there; the second record in the Region in the last

few years. Virginia Rail: Aug 22 Newark Valley (M,DL); 1 Sep 6 Sherburne (R,SW). Purple Gallinule: 1 May 14 Binghamton (L. Loomis), picked up from lawn, injured foot, and cared for by a veterinarian and consequently seen by a number of people. Common Snipe: Feb 15 Cortland (Phil Clark). Upland Plover: May 3 and 9 Homer (JAG). Pectoral Sandpiper: 1 Aug 15 Sherburne (R,SW); 3 Aug 21 Oneonta (KW,EF). Short-billed Dowitcher: May 17 WP (MS) and Binghamton (H. Marsi, C. Gottschall, GC). Common Tern: 2 Aug 2 WP (MS). Screech Owl: 1 on Oneonta Christmas Count Dec 21; 1 on BC; occasional reports from almost everywhere in Region; in Jan at Candor 1 came to a porch for suet and a road-killed rabbit (DW); 14 reports from Jun thru Nov. Barred Owl: 1 on BC; in Apr and May reported from Berkshire, Milford, Hancock and Binghamton; 1 Jun 14 McDonough BBS (CH); 3 reported from Otsego County during summer, 2 from Tioga County and young heard Jun 26 south of Binghamton (GC). Saw-whet Owl: Mar 20 Binghamton (R. & J. Saunders), Apr 23 Owego (D. Williams).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Whip-poor-will: heard several times from May 2 to 14 at Candor (DW); 1 heard and seen at Vestal May 17 to Jun 4 (RK). Red-headed Woodpecker: 1 Dec 21, '69 Cortland Christmas Count; May 9 Cortlandville (JAG) and Delhi (LC); May 13 Owego (MW); one adult brought 3 young to a feeder near Cortland for suet most of summer (Mr. & Mrs. A. H. Martin); a pair nested at Oneonta Country Club (Mrs. C. Koenig, Mrs. P. Dobinsky). Eastern Phoebe: in Aug one observed taking flies off the backs of two deer (A,MD) near Chenango Forks. Acadian Flycatcher: May 7 Delhi (LC), no details; Jun 25 Richford (M, DL), no details. Boreal Chickadee: 1 Dec 28, '69 Berkshire (ML), Feb 5 Endicott (ML), Mar 27 Newark Valley (ML). Tufted Titmouse: regular at 4 different feeders in Binghamton area during winter of '69-'70 in addition to scattered reports from the Cortland, Oneonta, Delhi and Owego areas; continued regular at 3 Binghamton localities and East Branch thru summer and into fall; a "family" at Endwell Jul 5 (F. Linaberry). Winter Wren: singing at 6 places around Milford commonplace; at Berkshire and Owego in June; at Unadilla (J. Tuttle), Choconut Center (MS) and Oct 16 at Vestal (RK). Carolina Wren: 3 on BC; also at Owego Jan-Mar (D. Bendle); 1 Aug 6 at East Branch (MB). Mockingbird: 8 on BC; reported quite frequently from many parts of Region during spring although not yet commonplace; at Berkshire and Owego in Jun, at Unadilla (J. Tuttle), Choconut Center and Berkshire in Aug and at Choconut Center thru Oct, even singing several times. Varied Thrush: a male at Andes Dec 21, '69 (MC), on or near feeder all day then disappeared; one at Delhi Dec 19 to Jan 10 seen at 3 different feeders (LC). Hermit Thrush: heard singing in 5 places near Milford (CW) and several other summer records in Chenango and Broome Counties; first fall migrants Oct 16 at Vestal (RK) and 1 Nov 8 Gilbert State Park (R,SW), the last. Swainson's Thrush: 1 heard at East Pharsalia Jun 14 and again Jul 18 (R,SW); migrants Sep 18 and 19 Chenango Forks (A,MD); 1 Oct 18 Oneonta (KW,EF) the last of 3 Oct records. Gray-cheeked Thrush: Jun 13 near Walton on Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society field trip; no reports of fall migrants. Eastern Bluebird: sharp decline in nesting pairs in Cortland area and low numbers in Binghamton area; 11 pairs fledged 25 young by Jun 4 on one property at Candor (DW). Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: Apr 26 Cortlandville (E. Spainhower); May reports from Candor (DW), Chenango Forks (M. Layton) and Owego (RW); a pair fledged a young one at East Branch Jun 18 (MB); Jul 22 adults feeding young at Chenango Forks (A,MD). Golden-crowned Kinglet: 14 heard singing or calling in spruce stands in Cortland, Chenango and Delaware Counties Jun 23 to 26 (R. Andrie), at elevations ranging from 1200 to 1900 feet. Water Pipit: Oct 28 Andes (MC); 3 Nov 8 (KW,EF). Northern Shrike: 17 reports Dec thru Mar; one singing Feb 14 (RK).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Philadelphia Vireo: Apr 28 Newark Valley (L. Dean); May 17 Binghamton (H. Marsi, GC, C. Gottschall, E. Washburn). Worm-eating

Warbler: May 17 Binghamton (H. Marsi, GC, C. Gottschall, E. Washburn). Blue-winged Warbler: Jul 22 Chenango Forks (A. MD). Parula Warbler: 2 Sep 20 East Branch (MB). Myrtle Warbler: 1 singing male at Preble in Cortland County Jun 32; 2 in Pharsalia area of Chenango County Jun 24; and 1 at Margaretville in Delaware County Jun 24 (R. Andrie); all between 1700 and 1900 feet elevation. Cerulean Warbler: 1 singing near Chenango in Cortland County Jun 23 (R. Andrie). Pine Warbler: 1 Apr 22 Oneonta (J. Koenig); 1 Aug 24 and another Sep 19 Oneonta (I. Wright). Palm Warbler: Sep 26 East Branch (MB); Nov 1 Vestal (GC). Prairie Warbler: again heard almost daily at Vestal Center during most of May and Jun (E. Washburn); 1 Jun 14 on McDonough BBS (CH). Kentucky Warbler: May 3 Newark Valley (LD), very close to window and all diagnostic markings noted; May 9 Homer (JAG); 1 Jun 14 McDonough BBS (CH). Mourning Warbler: 5 reports from May 16 to May 30; Jun 14 McDonough BBS (CH); 2 pair at East Branch (MB) and two other Jun reports; 1 Oct 3 Vestal (RK). Yellow-breasted Chat: May 20 Choconut Center (MS). Wilson's Warbler: Sep 26 East Branch (MB).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Orchard Oriole: 1 May 9 Binghamton (L. Thompson), present at same locality previous 2 years; 1 Jun 14 McDonough BBS (CH). Rusty Blackbird: 1 early Jan Owego (MW); 15-20 Oct 17 and 18 East Branch (MB). Cardinal: Jan 26 Delhi (LC), 2 at a neighbor's feeder for the first time ever. Blue Grosbeak: 1 Aug 10 Nichols (VH), "larger than the indigo bunting and the bill is larger, the tail is broader and the color is altogether different. It has the rusty brown wing bars which will really show up. It has dark streaks running down the back." Dickcissel: up to 6 in manure spread north of Endicott the first few days of Jan (L. & D. Bement, RK). Evening Grosbeak: fair numbers to abundant Dec thru Apr in all parts of the Region; 1 Nov 16 Oxford (A. Stratton) and 20 plus Nov 25 Norwich (R. SW); a few additional sightings at Norwich are the only other fall reports. House Finch: Mar 10 a pair at Newark Valley (ML, et. al.), well described; a pair at Binghamton in early May (R. Karns); 1 at Nichols Jun 18 (VH), description; another pair at Binghamton banded Jun 27 (GC, E. & C. Kirch), a second male not caught—female had large brood patch and young seen later; a pair at Endwell Jul 5 (F. Linaberry). Pine Grosbeak: 25 Dec 21, '69 Oneonta Christmas Count, but few other reports and none after Mar 24. Hoary Redpoll: 1 Feb 21 to 23 Candor (DW), smaller, lighter than Commons, white rump and "frosty;" Mar 3 Berkshire (ML), lighter, not as streaked as Commons, rump patch silvery with no streaks. Common Redpoll: good numbers from late Dec to mid Apr, none after May 17. Pine Siskin: a few all winter, more in Mar and thru mid May, then none. Red Crossbill: coming to feeders from Feb on in fairly good numbers, some still around May 31; 1 Jun 27 near Goodyear Lake in Otsego County (I. Wright). White-winged Crossbill: in much smaller numbers until Mar 25, then none. Oregon Junco: 1 Mar 29 Binghamton (R. Karns), sharp contrast between brown back and black head. Tree Sparrow: last spring record Apr 27 Candor (DW); first fall report Oct 21 Oxford (A. Stratton). Field Sparrow: Dec 28, '69 South Owego (E. Williams). White-crowned Sparrow: 3 Dec 21, '69 Oneonta Christmas Count. White-throated Sparrow: 17 summer records from Otsego, Chenango and Tioga Counties. Lapland Longspur: 3 Jan 1 BC (L. & D. Bement). Snow Bunting: Oct 25 Broome County Airport (MS).

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REGION 5 — ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

M. S. RUSK AND C. G. SPIES

Weather was mostly wet and warm, especially in the latter part of the period, with few days of north winds. The great amount of rain prevented mudflats from

developing, which may account for the mediocre shorebird flight. Despite the many days of south winds, some record hawk flights were observed (but Cooper's Hawk and Red-shouldered Hawk remain very scarce). The warm October and November probably caused the late departures noted below, especially of warblers, including notable late records for the Big Moose area. Heavy flights of a number of passerines, including most warblers (other than Myrtle, which was average) occurred, with outstanding flight days September 15, 24-28, October 1, 6, and 16. The TV tower in northern Pompey Township took its highest tolls on the nights of September 23-24 and October 15-16.

It seems clear that this will be a poor "winter finch" season, with only American Goldfinch in high numbers.

Besides the aforementioned, species and groups in particularly good migrant numbers include: 1) Red-throated Loon and Horned Grebe; 2) Pintail and Oldsquaw; 3) Purple Sandpiper—a record flight with the total number of individuals (33 or 38) reported this fall surpassing the total of all previous years since the beginning of *Kingbird* reporting; 4) Dunlin—a record high count, of flocks passing Derby Hill (previous fall maxima have been tallies of feeding flocks); 5) Glaucous Gull; 6) Common Nighthawk and Chimney Swift; 7) Flicker and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker; 8) Yellow-bellied Flycatcher; 9) Bank Swallow and Purple Martin; 10) Tufted Titmouse; 11) the small October migrants—Brown Creeper, Winter Wren, and Ruby-crowned Kinglet; 12) all the *Hylocichla* except Veery; 13) Cedar Waxwing (but no Bohemians with them!); 14) Philadelphia Vireo; 15) Rose-breasted Grosbeak; 16) Savannah, Fox (locally), and Lincoln's Sparrow; and 17) Lapland Longspur.

In contrast with the above, the following were in poor numbers: 1) Great Blue and Black-crowned Night Heron and American Bittern; 2) Black Duck, Wood Duck, and the Aythyas; 3) Ring-necked Pheasant; 4) both cuckoos—there were no period reports of Yellow-billed; 5) Hummingbird; 6) Horned Lark, which had also been scarce as a breeder here this summer; 7) Veery and Bluebird.

Period rarities are: Little Blue Heron, Franklin's Gull, Little Gull, Connecticut Warbler, and House Finch.

The numerous December departure dates (occasioned by the mild weather?) will appear in the winter report.

Abbreviations: BL—Beaver Lake Nature Center and vicinity in Lysander Twp; BM—Big Moose area in Webb Twp; DH—Derby Hill, Sage Creek, and immediate vicinity on L Ont near Texas; ESVB—Edgewater Beach, Sylvan Beach, and Verona Beach, comprising the east side of Oneida L; FH—Fair Haven Beach State Park, Little Sodus Bay, and vicinity; FR—Fox Ridge area of Montezuma Twp; HIGMA—Howland Island Game Management Area near Port Byron; NM—Niagara Mohawk Visitors' Center near Lakeview on L Ont and vicinity; NPT—northwest quarter of Pompey Twp; Onon—Onondaga; Ont—Ontario; SP—North Pond, South Pond, and the sand dunes on L Ont near Sandy Pond; SPT—southern half of Pompey Twp; SSSP—Selkirk Shores State Park and vicinity near Port Ont; Syr—Syracuse; TRGMA—Three Rivers State Game Management Area near Baldwinsville.

Observers: 2P, 3P—2 parties, 3 parties, DWA—D. W. Ackley; BB—B. Barnum; JRB—J. R. Bart; VB—V. Billings; DWC—D. W. Crumb; FCD—F. C. Dittrich; PAD—P. A. DeBenedictis; C&EF—C. & E. Farnham; FJL—F. J. LaFrance; JWP—J. W. Propst; MSR—M. S. Rusk; CGS—C. G. Spies; FGS—F. G. Scheider; GAS—G. A. Smith; KAS—K. A. Slotnick; RJS—R. J. Sutliff; J&EV—J. & E. VanDresar.

Corrigenda: *Kingbird* XX:3, July 1970, Region 5 report—p. 136, read "Max Snow Goose 9 Apr 26 DH"; p. 139, read "Brown Creeper: max 18 Apr 18 SSSP" and "Catbird: arr Apr 27 (slightly early)".

The editors' sincere thanks to Dorothy Crumb, Carolyn Davis, Jean Propst, Fritz Scheider, and Gerry Smith, for their great help in compiling the records which follow.

LOONS-DUCKS: Common Loon: arr Sep 28, 3 DH, SP-late; max 28 Nov 8 FH to SP (2P), low. Red-throated Loon: arr Oct 22, 1 Brewerton; max 6 Nov 8 FH to SP (3P); total for the period, 15 from 21 observers, is good. Red-necked Grebe: only 1 in the period, Nov 29 SP (MSR). Horned Grebe: arr Oct 4, 1 DH; max 428 Oct 8 FH to SP (2P) very high. Pied-billed Grebe: max 42 Oct 29 BL, HIGMA, FH (FGS) and 35 Sep 20 HIGMA (CGS) seem high. Double-crested Cormorant: arr Sep 20, 1 Oneida L (possibly a summering bird) and Oct 4, 4 DH (also the max); dep Nov 9, 1 FH; total of 8 birds from 21 observers. Great Blue Heron: max 11 Oct 6 Lysander Twp, HIGMA (FGS), low. Green Heron: max are roost counts at Horseshoe Is in Clay Twp, 97 Aug 16 (GAS), and at FR, 78 Aug 20 (CGS); dep Nov 9, 1 DH (JWP) record late. *LITTLE BLUE HERON*: 1 report, 1 im Sep 27 DH (CGS,MSR), 6th Regional report and the first since 1965. Common Egret: only report is 5-6 in Aug at HIGMA (R. Loveless), first fall report since 1965. Black-crowned Night Heron: arr Sep 14, 1 SP; max 3 or 4 Sep 26 SP; dep Oct 5, 1 DH, and Oct 11, 1 SP-only reports. Least Bittern: Sep 4, 3 Utica (VB)-only report. American Bittern: max 2 Sep 14 SP (FGS) and 2 Sep 26 SSSP (FJL)-very low; dep Oct 10, 1 SSSP (FGS)-very early.

Mute Swan: 1 Sep 19 Seneca R. near Baldwinsville with a flock of semi-tame Mallard, reportedly flew in in mid-May-only report. Whistling Swan: 2 Nov 28-29 Woodman Pond in Eaton Twp (R. White, G. Church)-only report. Canada Goose: arr Sep 15, 9 NPT; max 3670 Oct 25 HIGMA and 3500 Oct 29 HIGMA. Brant: arr Oct 16, 775 DH; next highest count 635-657 Nov 6-7 DH-very low. Snow Goose: 1 Oct 24-Nov 1 HIGMA (mob)-only report. Blue Goose: 2 ad Nov 1 HIGMA (PAD); 1 im Nov 8 DH (FGS)-only reports.

Mallard: max 363 Oct 26 HIGMA (GAS) very low. Black Duck: max 398 Nov 12 BL, HIGMA, FH (FGS) and 380 Nov 19 HIGMA, FH (FGS)-except for 1969 (290) these are the lowest counts in 15 years. Gadwall: arr Oct 4, 20 DH; max 179 Oct 29 HIGMA, FH (FGS) very good. Pintail: arr Jul 24, 1 Rome; max 1100 Oct 15 DH (FGS) a record high fall count. Green-winged Teal: arr Jul 31, 2 Onon L; max 45 Oct 6 HIGMA (FGS) very low and only slightly better than the past two years. Blue-winged Teal: max 60 Aug 30 ESVB (MSR), 59 Sep 13 ESVB (FGS), 52 Sep 16 NPT (DWC)-all very low; dep Oct 29, FH-somewhat early. American Widgeon: arr Aug 23, 2 Onon L; max 1400 Oct 18 DH (FGS) very good, and much better than fall 1969. Shoveler: arr Aug 17, 1 NPT; max 7 Nov 26 Oneida L-very low, and unusual for max to be so far E. Wood Duck: max 105 Oct 6 Lysander Twp, HIGMA (FGS) very low.

Redhead: arr Oct 6, 5 BL; max 75 Oct 18 HIGMA-low but higher than past two years. Ring-necked Duck: arr Sep 28, 4 DH; max 420 Nov 12 BL, HIGMA-about average but best since 1965. Canvasback: arr Oct 22, 30 BL; max 80 Nov 27 Oneida L (JWP) nearly the lowest ever. Greater Scaup: arr Sep 27, 75 DH. Lesser Scaup: arr Oct 8, 3 BL. Scaup max 898 Nov 26 Oneida L and 200 Nov 23 Skaneateles L are very low but better than 1969. Common Goldeneye: arr Oct 6, 2 BL; max 730 Nov 22 L Ont Oswego to SSSP and 674 Nov 26 Onon L & Oneida L. Bufflehead: arr Oct 18, 2 Oneida L & FH; max 131 Nov 26 Onon L & Oneida L. Oldsquaw: arr Oct 11, 1 DH (FGS) early; max 900 Nov 6 DH (GAS,DWC) a conservative count yet still the record high ever in the Region. King Eider: 1 Nov 15-27 DH (MSR,FGS)-only fall report. White-winged Scoter: arr Sep 24, 22 SSSP; max 930 Oct 16 DH-low for recent years. Surf Scoter: arr Oct 5, 30 DH; max 84 Oct 16 DH (JWP,DWC,GAS)-low only in comparison with past five years; dep Nov 29, 1 L Ont-early. Common Scoter: arr Oct 15, 2 DH (FCD,GAS,FGS) late;

max 41 Nov 12 L Ont from Oswego to DH—low only in comparison with past five years; dep Nov 29, 1 ad male SP (CGS)—early.

Ruddy Duck: arr Oct 1, 6 BL; max 39 Oct 29 BL, FH—high. Hooded Merganser: arr Sep 27, 4 DH; max 255 Nov 12 BL, HIGMA, SSP—good; other counts are 184 Nov 26 Oneida L, 55 Nov 27 Cazenovia L, 27 Nov 27 Otisco L. Common Merganser: 9–14 on Salmon R Reservoir Aug 27–Oct 4 may be very early migrants but are probably summering birds; arr Oct 25, 1 HIGMA; max 60 Nov 26 SP. Red-breasted Merganser: 1 Sep 13 at ESVB may be a very early migrant or a summering bird; arr Oct 4, 4 DH, SP; max 4535 Nov 8 FH to SP.

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: max 2 Aug 18 Colosse (GAS,DWC) and 2 Sep 12 near SSSP, Victory; dep Sep 24, 2 SP. Goshawk: arr Sep 6, 1 Starr Hill in Steuben Twp, and Oct 15, 1 SSSP; max 2 Oct 18 Holland Patent; 11 birds reported from 21 observers—1 in Sep, 5 in Oct, and 5 in Nov with 7 of these from L Ont—as in 1969, a marked fall flight. Sharp-shinned Hawk: arr Sep 6, 1 Starr Hill; and Sep 11, 1 NPT; max 19 Sep 17 (9 SP, 2 SSSP, 8 NPT); 62 birds from 21 observers—43 in Sep, 17 in Oct, 3 in Nov, with 29 of these from L Ont and 22 from Pompey Twp—a much larger flight than in recent years. Cooper's Hawk: arr Aug 22, 1 Redfield; and Sep 12, 1 Rainbow Shores near SP; max 2 Sep 17 NPT; 13 birds from 21 observers—1 in Aug, 9 in Sep, 1 in Oct, 2 in Nov, with only 2 from L Ont—still extremely low as in recent years.

Red-tailed Hawk: max 76 Oct 15 SSSP (GAS,FCD) appears to be a record high fall count. Red-shouldered Hawk: arr Sep 7, 3 (also the max) near BM; and Sep 10, 1 near Fernwood; fall total only 9 birds from 21 observers. Broad-winged Hawk: arr Aug 21, 1 NPT; max 62 Sep 14 SSSP; dep Sep 24, 1 NPT, and a late 1 Oct 17 Constantia (PAD) possibly a sick bird. Rough-legged Hawk: arr Oct 20, 1 SPT; max 8 Nov 8 SSSP. Bald Eagle: only 3 singles from 21 observers—Sep 14 SP (GAS), Sep 18 BM (BB), Oct 4 SSSP (GAS). Marsh Hawk: arr Aug 17, 1 FR; max 32 Oct 15 SSSP (GAS); other counts 14 Sep 14 SP (FGS), 13 Oct 24 SSSP (FGS) and, away from L Ont, 4 Oct 22 Oriskany Falls-Peterboro (A. Carter) apparently the best fall flight since 1957. Osprey: arr Aug 27, 1 near Port Ontario; max 16 Sep 14 SP, SSSP (FGS,GAS) an excellent flight; dep Nov 8, 1 Oneida L (KAS) late.

Peregrine Falcon: singles only—frequent reports of an im Sep 26–Oct 12 in the SP–SSSP area (mob) probably represent 1 bird; single ad males Oct 3 SPT (FJL) and Oct 4 DH (GAS) slightly better than any of the past 15 years. Pigeon Hawk: only 2 reports are Sep 16, 1 SSSP (FJL) and Sep 16, 3 NPT (DWC,JWP,GAS). Sparrow Hawk: max 39 Sep 24 SP—a good flight.

Ruffed Grouse: max 9 Sep 14 SSSP (FGS) and 5 Nov 27 SPT (FJL)—down somewhat from recent years. Ring-necked Pheasant: max 10 Sep 13 roadside count ESVB to FH (FGS) and 8 Sep 12 NPT (DWC)—very sharply down. Virginia Rail: max 2 Nov 19 FH; only singles otherwise. Sora: max 6 Sep 6 N Syr; dep Oct 4, 1 SP (RJS). Common Gallinule: max 55 Sep 26 SP (CGS) apparently a record high count; dep Oct 4, 6 SP. American Coot: arr Sep 28, 1 SP; max 240 Oct 8 BL, HIGMA and 200 Oct 29 FH.

SEE SHOREBIRD CHART.

Purple Sandpiper: 5 Nov 15 ESVB may have been part of the big flock, but are probably different birds; 3 Nov 15 SP and 6 Nov 19 FH are the only other reports.

Red Phalarope: only other reports are 1 each Nov 21 Oswego (CGS) and Nov 26 SP (FGS). Wilson's Phalarope: only other report 1 Aug 28–31 NM. Northern Phalarope: Sep 5–Oct 30 up to 7 per day involving at least 8 birds, Onon L; only other reports are singles Sep 12 NM, Oct 2 ESVB, Oct 24 Brewerton.

Pomarine Jaeger: 1 Nov 8 DH (FGS)—only report. Parasitic Jaeger: 1 Oct 7 SP and 3 Nov 8 DH (all FGS)—only reports; the above reports of 5 birds plus an unidentified jaeger Oct 4 DH (MSR,CGS) make this a low-average year, probably because of a lack of strong N winds.

FALL 1970 SHOREBIRD MIGRATION CHART

<i>Species</i>	<i>Arrival</i>	<i>Peak Count</i>	<i>Departure</i>
Semipalmated Plover Killdeer	Jul 20, 1 Onon L	23 Aug 20 ESVB (DWA) low 117 Oct 9 ESVB 112 Oct 3 Oneida	Oct 29, 1 FH
American Golden Plover	Aug 16, 1 NM	7 Oct 12 DH to SP (GAS) low	Nov 9, 1 SSSP (JWP) late
Black-bellied Plover	Aug 11, 1 Onon L	42 Oct 29 Onon L (DWC,GAS) high	Nov 16, 1 ESVB
Ruddy Turnstone	Aug 2, 3 SP	18 Sep 15 ESVB	Oct 3, 3 ESVB (DWA) early
American Woodcock		2s, Aug 25 Onon L, Oct 10 Skaneateles, Nov 1 NPT	
Common Snipe		24 Sep 19,22 Oct 25, both SSSP	
28 Upland Plover		2s, Aug 16 S Onon, Aug 23 Syr Airport	Sep 6, 1 Syr Airport
Spotted Sandpiper		8s, both Aug 16, Oswego to DH (CGS), NM to SP (FGS) low	Oct 24, 1 NM (FCD) very late
Solitary Sandpiper	Jun 30, 1 NPT (DWC) early	2s, Aug 17 NPT (DWC), Sep 4 Utica (VB), Oct 4 & 9 Salmon R Reservoir (CGS,FGS) very low	Oct 15, 1 DH (FGS) late
Greater Yellowlegs	Jul 16, 1 NM	17 Oct 4 Salmon R Reservoir	Nov 22, 2 NM (GAS,FCD) late
Lesser Yellowlegs	Jun 28, 1 Onon L	67 Aug 22 Onon L	Nov 8, 1 SSSP
Knot	Jul 22, 1 NM	3 Sep 6-7 ESVB	Sep 20, 1 ESVB
Purple Sandpiper ¹	Nov 14, 24 ESVB	24 Nov 14 ESVB (MSR) record high	Nov 21, 5 FH
Pectoral Sandpiper	Jul 18, 2 NM	11 Aug 17 NM (JWP) very low	Oct 25, 3 SP (FGS) early
White-rumped Sandpiper	Aug 4, 1 Onon L	2 Aug 16-21 NM (FGS,JWP) very low	Nov 15, 2 SP (MSR) record late

Baird's Sandpiper	Aug 9, 1 NM	3s, Aug 30 NM to SP (FGS), Sep 10 SP (FGS), Sep 26 SP (FJL,RJS) low	Oct 11, 1 SP (FGS) early
Least Sandpiper	Jul 2, 3 Onon L	35 Aug 20 ESVB (DWA) very low	Oct 9, 1 ESVB (FGS) early
Dunlin	Sep 14, 1 SP (FGS) late	708 Oct 16 DH (JWP) record high	
Short-billed Dowitcher	Jul 14, 1 Onon L	20 Aug 30 ESVB	Oct 4, 1 NM
Long-billed Dowitcher	Aug 31, 2 Onon L (JRB) very early	4 Sep 5 NM	Oct 7, 1 SP
Stilt Sandpiper	Jul 15, 1 Onon L	19 Sep 12 Onon L (GAS) high	Oct 3, 1 ESVB (DWA) early
Semipalmated Sandpiper	Jul 16, 2 NM	100 Aug 17 Onon L (GAS), 92 Aug 30 ESVB (CGS), 80 Aug 18 NM (DWC) low	Oct 15, 2 SP (GAS,FCD) early
62 Western Sandpiper ²	Jul 30, 1 FR (FGS) early	1 Aug 17-18 MN (JWP,DWC) low	Sep 3, 1 Onon L (FGS, JRB) very early
Buff-breasted Sandpiper ²		1 Aug 30 SP (FJL,FGS)	
Sanderling	Jul 20, 13 Onon L	71 Sep 12 SP (FGS), 43 Sep 7 ESVB (T. Riley) low	Nov 15, 3 SP
Red Phalarope ¹	Nov 6, 1 DH	singles only	Nov 29, 1 SP (CGS)
Wilson's Phalarope ¹	Aug 2, 2 NM	1 to 2 per day	Sep 5, 2 Onon L (FGS) early
Northern Phalarope ¹	Sep 5, 1 Onon L (FGS) late	7 Sep 8 Onon L	Oct 30, 1 Onon L (FGS) record late

¹ see main report for supplementary information.

² all fall fall reports of the species are in this chart

Glaucous Gull: arr Sep 12, 1 SP (FGS et al) record early date by a month and a half; max 3 Nov 29 SP—high for fall period. Great Black-backed Gull: arr Aug 20, 1 SP; max 73 Nov 21 FH to SP. Herring Gull: max 1030 Nov 12 SSSP to FH and 1000 Nov 8 SP to FH. Ring-billed Gull: max 4000 Nov 8 SP to FH. *FRANKLIN'S GULL*: the best fall ever—single 2nd-yearbirds Aug 3–16 SP (FGS); Sep 9 ESVB (JWP); Oct 3 Onon L. (PAD)—thought to be different from the bird there Jul 19-Aug 1; and Oct 7 SP (FGS)—thought to be different from the Aug 3–16 bird. Bonaparte's Gull: max 60 Aug 23 ESVB (T. Riley) and 50 Nov 7 DH (CGS)—very low. *LITTLE GULL*: Nov 7, 2—an ad and a light-underwing sub-ad—DH (FGS, CGS, MSR) the ad still present Nov 8 (FGS, PAD)—only 6 previously recorded in the Region.

Forster's Tern: arr and max 2 Sep 24 SP (FGS); dep Sep 28, 1 SP (GAS)—an average year. Common Tern: max 484 Aug 30 ESVB; dep Nov 21, 2 SP (CGS)—late. Caspian Tern: max 98 Aug 27 SP (FGS) near record high; dep Oct 24, 1 FH (CGS)—very late. Black Tern: max 16 Aug 30 ESVB (MSR)—very low; dep Sep 10, 2 SP. Mourning Dove: max 85 Oct 8 TRGMA, HIGMA. Black-billed Cuckoo: max 2 Aug 16–21 NPT (DWC); dep Oct 8, 1 near Belgium (FGS)—late; only 6 reported from 21 observers—2 each in Aug, Sep, Oct.

Screech Owl: max 2 Oct 22 near BL and 2 Oct 24 NPT. Great Horned Owl: max 3 Oct 24 HIGMA. Barred Owl: max 3 Oct 25 Peter Scott Swamp near Phoenix—unusual to have more than 2 at once outside the Adirondacks. Long-eared Owl: early Nov, 1 Syr, entangled in kite string, banded, and released (fide JRB)—only report. Saw-whet Owl: Oct 26, 1 dead near Jordan (DWC, KAS, GAS)—only report.

GOATSUCKERS—SHRIKES: Whip-poor-will: Oct 11, 1 injured female NPT (CGS)—probably very late. Common Nighthawk: max 100 Sep 8 Syr (GAS, DWC)—record high count; dep Sep 17, 1 SSSP. Chimney Swift: max 75 Aug 26 Syr and 70 Sep 26 Fulton; dep Oct 1, 1 Syr (MSR) and Sep 30, 60 Syr (GAS)—late, especially for so many. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 5 Aug 30 to SP to SSSP (FGS)—low; dep Oct 5, 1 N Syr (KAS)—late. Belted Kingfisher: max 6 Sep 26 Oswego to SP.

Yellow-shafted Flicker: max 205 Oct 1 SP to DH (FGS) and 185 Sep 28 SP to DH (GAS)—both very high. Pileated Woodpecker: max 4 Aug 19 Onon Hill. Red-bellied Woodpecker: max 5 Nov 12 HIGMA. Red-headed Woodpecker: max 2 Aug 28 near DH. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: arr Sep 14, 1 SP; max 44 Oct 1 DH to SP (FGS)—more than twice previous high count of 19; dep Nov 29, 1 at DeWitt feeder (R. Long) and Oct 29, 1 HIGMA. Hairy Woodpecker: max 7 Sep 18 BM. Downy Woodpecker: max 13 Oct 1 SP to DH, no indication of a flight of the last mentioned two species.

Eastern Kingbird: max 18s Aug 16 Oswego Co (FGS), Aug 22 Onon and Oswego Cos (CGS), and Aug 24 NPT (DWC)—low; dep Sep 19, 2 NPT and 2 SPT. Great Crested Flycatcher: max 3s Sep 5 NPT and Sep 14 Syr; dep Sep 22, 1 Morrisville (A. Carter)—early. Eastern Phoebe: max 8 Sep 24 NPT and frequently 5 per day Aug 18–Oct 5; dep Oct 25, 1 DH. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: arr Aug 20, 1 SSSP; max 6 Sep 15 NPT (FGS)—high; dep Oct 1, 1 DH (FGS)—late; total of 30 birds reported from 21 observers, 19 of these in Pompey Twp and 8 DH to SP—a record high for any fall (previous high 22 in 1968). Traill's Flycatcher: max 2 Aug 29 SP (CGS); dep Sep 26, 1 NPT (DWC). Least Flycatcher: max 5 Sep 5 N Syr (FGS); dep Oct 1, 2 SH to SP (FGS). Undistinguished Empidonax max 18 Sep 1 NPT (DWC). Eastern Wood Pewee: max 18 Aug 27 SP to SSSP (FGS) and 12 Sep 15 NPT (FGS)—low; dep Oct 13, 1 NPT (GAS, DWC)—late. Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 Aug 21 NPT (DWC); 1 Sep 5 SSSP (FJL); 1 Sep 10 SPT (FJL)—only reports. Horned Lark: max 45 Oct 16 DH (DWC) very low.

Tree Swallow: max 3600 Sep 17 SP; dep Oct 18, 1 Oneida L. Bank Swallow: max 15,000 Aug 23 SP (FJL, RJS)—ties previous high set in 1957; dep Sep 13, 2 FR

(FGS,PAD)-early. Rough-winged Swallow: max 4 Aug 18 NPT (DWC)-low; dep Sep 12, 1 NM (PAD,FGS). Barn Swallow: max 2000 Aug 23 SP (FJL,RJS)-good for recent years; dep Sep 29, 1 NM (DWC)-early. Cliff Swallow: max 3 Aug 16 Redfield; no migrants reported. Purple Martin: DH max 700 Aug 16, 1200 Aug 18, 300 Aug 30, 175 Sep 3, and SP max 1000 Aug 23—an excellent flight and a good max; dep Sep 19, 1 Texas.

Gray Jay: 2 ad Sep 6 near BM (MSR,CGS)-only report. Blue Jay: max 95 Oct 11 SSSP (FJL,RJS)-high. Common Crow: max 375 Oct 25 Port Ontario (FGS) and 325 Oct 24 HIGMA (CGS) are low—no marked flight this fall. Black-capped Chickadee: max 75s Aug 28 Tug Hill areas (GAS,FCD) and Oct 22 NPT (DWC)-low—no large flight. Boreal Chickadee: 1 Sep 7 Onon Hill (FGS)-probably summered there; Adirondack max 6 Nov 22 near BM. Tufted Titmouse: 1 Oct 24 Syr (D. Dawley); 1 Oct 24 FH (MSR); 1 Oct 31 Syr (C&EF); 1 Nov 14 ESVB (CGS); also Nov feeder reports of 1 Pleasant Pt on L Ont, 2 Oneida, 3 Baldwinsville, 1 Fayetteville, 1 DeWitt, and 2 Brewerton (fide B. Burtt)—no other reports, indicating a moderate incursion. White-breasted Nuthatch: max 11s Sep 24 SP to SSSP and Oct 17 SSSP, and 10 Sep 18 BM—indicative of a light flight. Red-breasted Nuthatch: arr Aug 27, 2 SP; max 17 Sep 7 near BM (MSR) and 12 Nov 14 SSSP (GAS)—a good flight. Brown Creeper: arr Sep 10, 1 SP; max 60 Sep 28 SP (GAS) and 35 Oct 1 SP (FGS) are very high; around time of max several reports of 4-6 in residential Syr where species is not usually found.

House Wren: max 12 Aug 16 S Onon; dep Oct 13, 1 NPT (GAS,DWC)-early. Winter Wren: arr Sep 13, 1 FH (FGS) late; max 62 Sep 28 SP (GAS)-very high; dep Nov 22, 1 BM (CGS)-late, especially for that location. Long-billed Marsh Wren: max 5s Sep 19 DH to SSSP (MSR) and Oct 11 NM to SP (FGS) is low; dep Oct 17, 1 SP (CGS)-early. Mockingbird: max 2 Nov 12 near Jamesville (DWC) and singles reported from Oswego, NPT, Syr, Sherrill. Catbird: max 29 Sep 17 SP to SSSP (FGS) high; dep Nov 10, 1 SPT (FJL)-record late date for non-feeder bird. Brown Thrasher: max 18 Aug 24 and 14 Sep 14 both NPT (both DWC) is very high but there were no other counts above 5 per day.

Robin: max 5230 Oct 28 near Nedrow (GAS) is a record high count; other counts of 100-500 per day Oct 23-Nov 6. Wood Thrush: max 10 Sep 19 & 20 NPT (GAS,DWC)-high; dep Oct 17, 2 singles by different parties SSSP, Hermit Thrush: arr Sep 17, 1 SSSP; max 24 Oct 1, DH&SP (FGS) and 31 Oct 11 SP to Ninemile Pt (2P) are good. Swainson's Thrush: arr Aug 29, 1 SP; max 35 Sep 14 SP to SSSP (FGS) is high but there was no other count over 10 per day; dep Oct 17, 1 SSSP. Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr Sep 11, 1 NPT; max 9 and 5, both Sep 24, SSSP to SP and NPT; dep Oct 16, 1 dead NPT and Oct 15, 1 SP. Veery: max 4s Aug 28 sub-Tug Hill areas (GAS) and Aug 29 SSSP to SP (MSR)-poor; dep Sep 25, 1 NPT. Eastern Bluebird: max 20 and 14, Oct 24 and Oct 19, both NPT; dep Nov 7, 1 NPT. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 2 Aug 16 SSSP (FGS); 2 Aug 25 near S Onon (GAS); 2 Sep 7 N Syr (FGS); 1 Sep 12 NPT (DWC, W. Brosseau) are all the reports—species is unusual as a fall migrant. Golden-crowned Kinglet: arr Sep 17, 1 SSSP max 185 Oct 1 DH&SP. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr Aug 29, 1 BM, and Sep 14, 6 SSSP; max 505 Sep 28 SP (GAS)-twice previous record; dep Nov 14, 1 ESVB (MSR)-surprisingly early in view of the heavy flight and mild Nov weather. Water Pipit: arr Sep 6, 3 Skaneateles; max 500 Oct 25 SP&DH (FGS)-high. Cedar Waxwing: max 1100 Oct 23 Syr (GAS) probably a record high count; numbers sharply declined in the last week of the period. Northern Shrike: arr Nov 6, 1 im N Syr, and Nov 8, 1 ad SSSP; singles only reported. Loggerhead Shrike: 1 Aug 22 SPT (FJL)-only report.

SEE VIREO-WARBLER CHART.

FALL 1970 VIREO-WARBLER MIGRATION CHART

<i>Species</i>	<i>Arrival</i>	<i>Peak Count</i>	<i>Departure</i>
Yellow-throated Vireo		5 Aug 16 Redfield Twp, 4 Aug 28 n shore Oneida L, 3 Sep 13 FH	Oct 6, 1 Lysander Twp (FGS) late
Solitary Vireo	Sep 9, 1 ESVB	11 Sep 14 SSSP to SP (FGS) high	Nov 8, 1 SSSP (FJL,RJS) very late
Red-eyed Vireo		76 Sep 17 SSSP to SP (FGS) FJL) very high	Oct 17, 1 SSSP
Philadelphia Vireo	Aug 27, 1 SSSP	9s, Sep 17 SSSP to SP (FJL), Sep 25 NPT (DWC) high	Oct 16, 1 DH (DWC) late
Warbling Vireo		10 Sep 7 Oneida L	Sep 26, 1 N Syr
Black-and-white Warbler	Aug 18, 1 DH	18 Sep 15 NPT (FGS) high	Oct 12, 1 dead NPT (CGS) late, Oct 1, 1 Syr
Golden-winged Warbler ¹	Aug 20, 2 SSSP (FGS)	2 Aug 23 SSSP (CGS)	Aug 23, 1 near S Onon (GAS) early
Blue-winged Warbler ¹	Aug 22, 1 near Marcellus (GAS)	singles only	Aug 24, 1 NPT (DWC)
83 Brewster's Warbler ¹		1 Aug 22 SSSP (MSR)	
Tennessee Warbler	Aug 27, 6 SP (FGS) late	14 Sep 15 NPT, 11 Sep 7 near BM	Oct 12, 2 dead NPT, Oct 11, 3 SSSP
Orange-crowned Warbler	Sep 15, 1 NPT	4 Oct 8 SPT, 3 Oct 1 SSSP	Oct 19, 1 NPT
Nashville Warbler	Aug 18, 1 SSSP	28 Sep 19 NPT	Oct 16, 1 dead NPT (CGS), Oct 13, 1 SPT (FJL) late
Parula Warbler	Aug 26, 1 BM and Sep 7, 1 N Syr	9 Sep 15 NPT, 7 Sep 24 SP	Oct 6, 1 TRGMA
Yellow Warbler		31 Aug 22 SSSP to SP	Oct 6, 1 TRGMA (FGS) record late
Magnolia Warbler	Aug 20, 1 SSSP	49 Sep 24 SSSP to SP (FGS), 45 Sep 8 NPT (DWC) high	Oct 22, 2 BM (BB) late, especially for so far N.
Cape May Warbler	Aug 17, 1 NPT	10 Sep 15 NPT	Oct 11, 1 SSSP (FJL,RJS) late
Black-throated Blue Warbler	Aug 27, 1 SP	32 Sep 24 and 27 Sep 25, both NPT (DWC) record high	Oct 18, 2 NPT (DWC) late
Myrtle Warbler	Aug 20, 1 SSSP (FGS) early	124 Oct 6 Lysander Twp & HIGMA	Nov 13, 1 N Syr

Black-throated Green Warbler	Aug 20, 1 SSSP	51 Sep 19 NPT & Pratts Falls	Oct 14, 1 Syr
Cerulean Warbler ¹		2 Sep 15 NPT (JWP,FGS)	
Blackburnian Warbler	Aug 16, 1 Nedrow	15s, Sep 5 SSSP and Sep 7 BM	Oct 22, 1 BM (BB) record late, remarkable so far N
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Aug 18, 4 DH	14 Sep 19 NPT & Pratts Falls	Oct 24, 1 NPT (PAD) record late
Bay-breasted Warbler	Aug 20, 1 SSSP	32 Sep 14 SSSP to SP, 26 Sep 15 NPT	Oct 11, 2 SSSP (FJL,RJS) and 1 NPT (DWC) record late
Blackpoll Warbler	Aug 21, 1 NPT (DWC) early	28 Sep 14 NPT (DWC) high	Oct 27, 1 NPT (DWC) record late
Pine Warbler ¹		1 Sep 14 SSSP (FGS)	
Palm Warbler	Sep 13, 3 NPT (GAS) late	5s, Oct 5 DH & SSSP and Oct 10 NPT	Oct 13, 4 NPT
Ovenbird	Aug 20, 1 SP	10 dead Sep 24 NPT and 8s, Sep 3 NPT, Sep 14 SP	Oct 16, 1 dead NPT (CGS) late and Oct 8, 2 NPT
Northern Waterthrush	Aug 16, 1 SP	6 Sep 15 NPT (FGS), 5 Sep 17 SP (FGS,FJL) high	Oct 1, 1 DH
33 CONNECTICUT WARBLER ¹	Oct 14, 1 im injured NPT, released Oct 19 Syr (CGS)	singles only	Oct 19, 1 im SPT (FJL)
Mourning Warbler	Aug 24, 1 NPT (DWC) late	2 Sep 8 NPT, 2 dead Sep 19 NPT	Oct 8, 1 NPT (DWC) record late
Yellowthroat		27 Sep 15 NPT (FGS) high	3 Nov reports, all 1s, Nov 30 New Hartford (VB), Nov 12 HIGMA (FGS), Nov 5 Skaneateles (C&EF)
Hooded Warbler ¹		1 Aug 27 SSSP (FGS)	
Wilson's Warbler	Aug 20, 2 SSSP to SP	26 Sep 17 SSSP to SP (FGS,FJL)	Oct 10, 1 Ninemile Pt on L Ont (FGS) late
Canada Warbler	Aug 18, 1 DH	9 Aug 23 SSSP	Sep 27, 1 Syr (R. Long) record late
American Redstart	Aug 16, 2 SP and 2 NPT	44 Sep 15 Pompey Twp (FGS) high	Oct 11, 1 SSSP

¹ all fall reports of the species are in this chart.

BLACKBIRDS-SPARROWS: Bobolink: max 120 Sep 3 Norway (VB) high; dep Sep 20, 1 HIGMA (MSR)-early. Eastern Meadowlark: max 70 Oct 9 Redfield. Redwinged Blackbird: max 5200 Sep 28 Port Ont to SP. Baltimore Oriole: max 30 Aug 16 SP; dep Sep 25, 1 Pratts Falls. Rusty Blackbird: arr Sep 24, 1 SSSP; max 100 Nov 14 Peat Swamp near Clay. Common Grackle: max 8000 Oct 11 SSSP. Brown-headed Cowbird: max 1300 Oct 18 Highland Park & Labrador Pond, both near Tully. Scarlet Tanager: max 13 Sep 15 NPT (FGS) high; dep Oct 10, 2 Ninemile Pt.

Cardinal: max 14 Nov 12 BL, HIGMA, and 10 Nov 26 Herkimer; usually 2-5 per day. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 22 Sep 22 N Syr and 19 Sep 15 NPT (both FGS)-high; dep Oct 9, 1 NPT. Indigo Bunting: max and dep 5 Oct 6 Lysander Twp & HIGMA (FGS)-late for the max; usually 1-2 per day. Evening Grosbeak: arr Oct 16, 1 Syr; max 150 Nov 8 DH. Purple Finch: max 17 Oct 14 Oswego. *HOUSE FINCH*: 2 im Sep 28 and 2 including 1 ad male Oct 1 both Syr (both CGS,MSR)-only reports of this recent arrival to Region 5. Pine Grosbeak: 1 Nov 30 BM (BB)-only report. Pine Siskin: 2 Nov 8 DH (GAS,DWC)-only report. American Goldfinch: max 1070 Oct 25 DH&SP (FGS)-a record high; very numerous throughout period.

Rufous-sided Towhee: 1 Sep 5 Woods L near BM (CGS) is an unusual location; max 42 Oct 7 NPT (DWC,C&EF)-migrant high. Savannah Sparrow: max 75 Sep 7 SPT (FJL) and 55 Sep 24 NM (FGS) are record high counts; dep Nov 8, 1 NM. Grasshopper Sparrow: max 2 Aug 16 NM; dep Aug 23, 1 singing near Volney (CGS)-early. Henslow's Sparrow: 1 singing Oct 13 NPT; dep 1 dead, killed night of Oct 16-17, NPT (CGS)-late. Vesper Sparrow: max 60 Oct 16 North Bay (B. & S. Peebles) and 25 Oct 16 Holland Patent (J. & E. VanDresar) are average counts but high for recent years; dep Nov 2, 2 NPT. Slate-colored Junco: arr Sep 12, 1 SP (FGS)-early; max 150 Oct 17 SSSP. Tree Sparrow: arr Oct 24, 2 NPT; max 110 Nov 16 NPT (DWC)-low. Chipping Sparrow: max 65 Oct 13 NPT; dep Nov 7, 1 DH. Field Sparrow: max 75 Oct 17 Holland Patent (J. & E. VanDresar)-highest of past 10 years. White-crowned Sparrow: arr Sep 10, 10 New Hartford (VB)-record early; max 70 Oct 10 NM to Fernwood (FGS)-low; dep Nov 6, 1 SPT. White-throated Sparrow: arr Aug 16, 1 SP (FGS)-early; max 425 Oct 7 NPT (DWC, C&EF) and 268 Oct 6 Lysander Twp & HIGMA (FGS)-better than average. Fox Sparrow: arr Sep 28, 1 SP (GAS) early; max 32 Nov 6 NPT (DWC) record high, but away from NPT far less common, e.g. max 5 Oct 29 HIGMA (FGS) Lincoln's Sparrow: arr Sep 9, 1 SPT; max 5 Oct 6 Lysander Twp & HIGMA (FGS)-high; dep Oct 18, 1 NPT; total of 40 birds from 21 observers. Swamp Sparrow: max 28 Oct 1 DH&SP; Song Sparrow: max 186 Oct 6 Lysander Twp & HIGMA. Lapland Longspur: arr Oct 10, 6 NM; max 22 Oct 23 (JWP)-record high; 3 Nov 25 Syr Airport is only report away from L Ont. Snow Bunting: arr Oct 17, 5 SP; max 400 Nov 27 NM. 220 Ostrom Ave., Syracuse 13210

REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

J. B. BELKNAP

Mild weather lasted through mid-October, with a hard frost on the 17th. Late October continued mild-the month averaging 1.7°F. above normal at Watertown. November was more seasonable with some ice formation on the 8th and 9th. Late November brought snow on the 24th. This was followed by rain and milder weather with the ground bare and frost-free as the month ended. Precipitation was ample throughout the period.

Abbreviations: ED—El Dorado; Jeff Co—Jefferson County; L Ont—Lake Ontario; St L Riv—St. Lawrence River; PRGMA—Perch River Game Management Area;

WHGMA—Wilson Hill Game Management Area; RMSPD—Robert Moses State Park and Power Dam.

Observers: JB—John Belknap; FC—Frank Clinch; DG—David Gordon; GP—Glenn Perrigo; TK—Thomas Kurzrock; J&DA—Judy and Douglass Allen; J&RW—June and Robert Walker; RB—Richard Brouse.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: several Oct & Nov along L Ont (DG). Red-throated Loon: 1 Nov 25 near Morristown, St L Riv (R.Long). Horned Grebe: present during Nov along L Ont (DG); 1 Nov 26 at RMSPD (J&DA). Pied-billed Grebe: still present Nov 19 in Jeff Co (JB). Green Heron: last date Oct 12 (DG). Great Blue Heron: 1 Nov 26 at RMSPD (J&DA). Brant: est 100 Nov 7 at Dexter Marsh (TK). Blue-winged Teal: Nov 14 (late) (TK). All three species of Scoters present Oct 31 at ED (RB). Ring-necked Duck: Oct 3 (early) Dexter Marsh (TK); 1 Nov 28 WHGMA (J&DA). Ruddy Duck: rather rare in Region—several seen during Nov in Jeff Co. *COMMON EIDER*: 2 to 5 latter half of Nov at ED either females or immatures (fide RB& J&RW).

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: last date Oct 14 (JB). Peregrine Falcon: ED Oct 3 (DG) and Oct 12 (GP) immature, perhaps the same bird. Pigeon Hawk: Oct 12 ED (GP) immature. Rough-legged Hawk: first noted Oct 28 with a rather light flight thereafter (JB); several in No St Lawrence Co last week in Nov. Barred Owl: 1 Sept 19 in southeast St Lawrence Co (Sheffields) this species seldom reported. Coot: plentiful during Nov with 2 still present Nov 27 at Chaumont (JB) and 1 at RMSPD on same date (J&DA). Virginia Rail: 1 Oct 8 at PRGMA (RB). Pomarine Jaeger: 1 Sept 26 at ED (fide Shepherd & GP). Semipalmated Plover: present through Oct 11 at ED (GP). Black-bellied Plover: present Aug 22-Oct 17 at ED; 1 Nov 7 at ED (RB). Golden Plover: 25 Sept 13 at ED (Sunderlin, Lloyd, Foster); 2 Oct 12 at ED (GP). Ruddy Turnstone: present in varying numbers through Oct 24 at ED. Solitary Sandpiper: last date Oct 4 (DG). Greater Yellowlegs: last date Nov 19 (JB). Lesser Yellowlegs: present in good numbers through Oct 17 at ED. Knot: a few latter half of Aug at ED (DG&GP). Purple Sandpiper: 1 to 4 at ED—Nov 14–26 (DG&RB). White-rumped Sandpiper: Oct 3–Nov 14 at ED (DG), max of 4. Baird's Sandpiper: 1 or 2 Aug 19–Oct 10 at ED. Dunlin: extreme dates—Sept 12–Nov 16. Short-billed Dowitcher: present Aug 17–Sept 27 at ED (GP). Stilt Sandpiper: Aug 17–Sept 27 at ED, max 15 (GP). Western Sandpiper: singles Aug 21–Sept 13 at ED (GP). Phalaropes: all three species were reported from ED: Red—singles, late Aug (GP), 1 Oct 18 (J&RW); Wilson's—several reported Aug 19–28; Northern—extreme dates, Aug 22–Nov 26. *HUDSONIAN GODWIT*: adult in winter plumage Oct 11 ED (fide GP).

Great Black-backed Gull: imm Aug 21 at ED (GP); 25 at RMSPD last week Nov (J&DA). Glaucous Gull: 1 Sept 27 at ED (GP& J&RW). Bonaparte's Gull: est 200 late Nov at RMSPD (J&DA). *ICELAND GULL*: 2 on Nov 27 RMSPD—carefully observed for two hours (fide J&DA). Caspian Tern: last date Sept 19 (DG). Common Tern: last date Sept 19 (DG). Forster's Tern: 2 Sept 13 at ED (fide Sunderlin, Lloyd, Foster).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLINGS: Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last date Sept 26 (FC). Yellow-shafted Flicker: heavy Sept flight (DG&JB). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: last date Oct 12 (DG). Eastern Phoebe: last date Oct 17 (DG). Wood Pewee: last date Sept 7 (JB). House Wren: last date Oct 24 (DG) very late. Long-billed Marsh Wren: last Oct 3 late (DG). Hermit Thrush: last Nov 1 (FC). Water Pipit: Oct 10 and 17 ED (RB&DG). Northern Shrike: first date Nov 14. Tufted Titmouse: 1 at feeder in Carthage, last three weeks in Nov (fide Metzger).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Last dates for Solitary and Red-eyed Vireos Oct 12 (DG). Last dates for warblers as follows: Nashville Oct 3 (DG); Tennessee Sept 17

(Sheffields); Myrtle Oct 24 (DG); Black-throated Green Oct 4; Palm Oct 12; Ovenbird Sept 12 (DG); Wilson's Oct 19 (banded FC).

BLACKBIRDS-SPARROWS: Scarlet Tanager: Oct 6 (FC). Towhee: last date Oct 12. Evening Grosbeak: first date Nov 2 (JB). Tree Sparrow: first date Oct 31 (DG). Lapland Longspur: 3 Oct 17 at ED (DG), 4 Oct 24 (RB). Snow Bunting: first noted Oct 17 ED (DG).

92 Clinton St., Gouverneur, N.Y. 13642.

REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK — CHAMPLAIN

THEODORE D. MACK

September was notable for the flights of small land birds heard almost nightly in the Paul Smiths area. November was mild with no real winter weather until the 23rd when we had about an inch of snow which stayed only until November 28. The Parasitic Jaeger on Lake Champlain was the best bird for the period. Bonaparte's Gulls are noteworthy for this region also.

We would greatly appreciate reports from residents and visitors to this four county area. Please include numbers and dates, and don't forget your name and address. Rarities should also include type of binoculars, approximate distance, length of time studied, light conditions, number of times this species has been observed previously, and detailed description of observations made of the bird (plumage, action, song, flight, etc.) Notes should be made at the time of the observation.

Observers: SE—Stephen Everett; TM—Ted Mack.

Abbreviations: LStReg—Lower St. Regis Lake; P—pond; PS—Paul Smiths; SL—Saranac Lake.

LOONS-DUCKS: Common Loon: 2 Sep 17 LStReg (SE); 1 Oct 23 Lake Colby (SE). Red-throated Loon: about 6 Nov 29 SL area apparently forced to land after becoming iced in flight (Greenleaf Chase). American Bittern: 1 Sep 26 PS (SE). Canada Goose: several hundred in migration end of Sep and early Oct PS (TM). Blue Goose: 3 migrating with 20 Canadas Oct 25 PS (SE). Gadwall: 2 Oct 3 Rainbow Lake (SE). Green-winged Teal: 10 Sep 12 Witherbee (SE). Wood Duck: 2 Sep 17 LStReg (SE); 2 Sep 27 LStReg (SE). Scaup (Lesser?): 10 Oct 3 Rainbow Lake (SE). Common Golden-eye: 2 Sep 24 LStReg (SE). Bufflehead: 50 Sep 27 LStReg (SE); 1 Oct 3 Rainbow Lake (SE); 10 Oct 14 Barnum P (SE). Hooded Merganser: 15 Oct 14 Barnum P. (SE); 2 Oct 19 LStReg (SE). Common Merganser: 20 Sep 28 LStReg (SE). 24 Oct 31 Goodnow Flow, (TM).

HAWKS-OWLS: Sharp-shinned Hawk: 1 Nov 6 Witherbee (SE). Red-tailed Hawk: 1 Sep 26 PS (SE). Broad-winged Hawk: 1 Nov 14 Mountain P near PS (SE). Sparrow Hawk: 1 Sep 26 PS (SE); 1 Oct 16 PS (SE). Ruffed Grouse: 1 Sep 22 PS (SE); 3 Sep 27 PS (TM); 1 Oct 1 PS (TM); 1 Oct 13 PS (SE); 4 Nov 28 Newcomb (TM). Killdeer: 1 Nov 24 PS (SE). Golden Plover: 12 Sep 19 Gabriels (TM); 15 Sep 22 Gabriels (SE). Woodcock: a few in most of the suitable habitats visited; 2 late birds Nov 4 PS (TM). **PARASITIC JAEGER:** 1 Sep 12 Port Henry (SE) (observer has seen this species previously). Ring-billed Gull: 1 Sep 14 LSt Reg (SE). **BONAPARTE'S GULL:** 6 Sep 18 Port Henry (SE). Great Horned Owl: most areas have 1 or 2 birds; 5 thruout period PS area (TM). Screech Owl: 1 Oct 25 PS (SE).

GOATSUCKERS-STARLING: Pileated Woodpecker: 1 Sep 21 Little Green P (TM); 2 Oct 24 Roiley P (TM); 3 Oct 25 PS (SE). Phoebe: 1 Sep 15 PS (SE).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Sep 22 PS (SE). Wood Pewee: 1 Sep 29 PS (SE); 1 Oct 8 PS (SE). Gray Jay: 1 at feeder Sep 21 PS (SE). Winter Wren: 1 Sep 14 PS (SE). Gray-cheeked Thrush: 2 Sep 15 PS (SE). Bluebird: 10 Sep 22 P (SE). Golden-crowned and Ruby-crowned Kinglets: large numbers of both Sep 17 to Oct 15 PS (SE,TM). Water Pipit: highest count 45 Sep 22 Gabriels (SE). Northern Shrike: 1 Nov 11 Nicholville (TM); 1 Nov 14 Mountain P near PS (SE).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Heavy flights of small birds almost nightly during Sep over PS. Nashville Warbler: 1 Sep 14 PS (SE). Magnolia Warbler: 1 Sep 14 PS (SE). Myrtle Warbler: 25 Sep 20 Mt. Baker SL (TM). Black-throated Green Warbler: good numbers thru Sep (SE,TM). Blackburnian Warbler: 1 Sep 17 PS (SE). Chestnut-sided Warbler: 1 Sep 14 PS (SE). Blackpoll Warbler: 1 Sep 17 PS (SE). Palm Warbler: 1 Oct 14 PS (SE). Wilson's Warbler: 1 Sep 14 PS (SE).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Meadowlark: 2 Oct 25 PS (SE). Cowbird: 50 Oct 16 PS (SE). Purple Finch: 1 Sep 29 PS (SE); 1 Oct 26 PS (SE). Pine Grosbeak: 2 Oct 24 PS (SE); 1 Nov 4 PS (SE). Pine Siskin: 2 Nov 17 Brandon Rd (SE). Towhee: 1 Sep 13 PS (SE). Savannah Sparrow: 1 Sep 24 PS (SE); 1 Sep 27 PS (SE). White-crowned Sparrow: 1 Sep 29 PS (SE); 1 Oct 1 PS (SE); 3 Nov 25 Witherbee (SE). Lincoln's Sparrow: 1 Sep 17 PS (SE); 1 Sep 29 PS (SE). Swamp Sparrow: 1 Sep 22 Gabriels (SE). Lapland Longspur: 10 Sep 22 Gabriels (SE). Snow Bunting: 15 Oct 30 PS (SE); 20 Nov 2 PS (SE); 10 Nov 17 Brandon Rd (SE).

P.O. Box 125, Paul Smiths, New York 12970.

REGION 9 — DELAWARE-HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

The season must rank among the warmest autumns on record. Only a few frosts were reported before November, and there was no snow thru to the end of the period. After a rather dry summer, precipitation during the last half of August was normal, and it continued that way thru the end of the period. On the whole, weather conditions were rather stable with no marked changes. This probably contributed to the even migration reported from most areas.

WBC reports one of the best warbler migrations in the past 20 years, even surpassing a number of spring movements. Hawk movements were among the best ever, with a phenomenal wave of Broadwings on Sep 19 and 20. Most waterfowl were a bit late in arriving with some exceptions, and a few, like the Common Merganser and Common Goldeneye, were almost unreported thru the end of the period. Winter finches and sparrows were late in arriving, and at the close of the period it certainly does not look like a northern finch winter.

The "find" of the period was the nearly 500 Golden Plover on Oct 17 at Hamptonburgh, Oran by Major John Getgood and his mother Mrs. Ethel H. Getgood. The birds continued thru Nov 7 in declining numbers. The appearance of so many of this species is unprecedented in the literature of the region and probably of the state. It is especially noteworthy in that it occurred well inland away from the seashore with no unusual storms to explain the incursion.

Area Compilers: Robert F. Deed, Mrs. William Grierson, Maj. John Getgood, Fred Hough, John C. Orth, Mrs. Eleanor Pink, Otis Waterman, Alfred Merritt.

Observers cited: DSD—Donald S. Deed; RFD—Robert F. Deed; DF—Davis Finch; FG—Florence Germond; JG—Maj. John Getgood; SG—Stanley Grierson; FH—Fred Hough; TH—Thelma Haight; AJ—Alice Jones; PJ—Paul Jeheber; MJK—Mary & Jim Key; AM—Alfred Merritt; PM—Phil Meisner; JCO—John C. Orth; AP—Alma

Polhemus; EP—Eleanor Pink; W,TS—William & Trixie Strauss; CT—Czecher Terhune; MVW—Marion VanWagner.

Abbreviations: The first four or five letters of each county: Dutch, Oran, Rock, West; RAS—Rockland Audubon Society; WBC—Ralph T. Waterman Bird Club; EAMBC—Edgar A. Mearns Bird Club; USMA—U.S. Military Academy at West Point; FNA—Fyke Nature Association of Allendale N.J. Annual Hawk Watch at Mt. Peter, Oran; almost daily from Aug 30 to Oct 24; E,LM—Ed & Lana Mills, hawk watching at Hook Mt., Upper Nyack, several days each week from Sept. 12 thru Nov. 30.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: all reports Dutch; 1 Oct 10 and 5 thru Nov, last Nov 27, Rhinecliff (EP,MVW). Red-throated Loon: more reports than ever before; all Hudson R; 1 Oct 23 Cruger Is (DF); 1 Nov 8 Hook Mt (RFD); 6 Nov 9 in Dutch (DF); 3 Nov 27—1 Rhinecliff (EP) and 2 at Nyack (AP). Red-necked Grebe: usually unreported; 1 Nov 5 Rhinecliff (MK,AJ). Horned Grebe: first report 2 Nov 23 Nyack (AP). *EARED GREBE*: 1 Nov 27 on Hudson R near Rhinebeck—Kingston Bridge, well observed and verification report filed (MVW,EP). Pied-billed Grebe: numbers very good thru region; as many as 6 on Queensboro L in Bear Mt Park; and 5 on Rockland L. Great Blue Heron: even lower than usual if that's possible; only a few reports for the season. Little Blue Heron: 1 imm Aug 23 Poughkeepsie (AJ). Cattle Egret: first fall record for Dutch; 3 Nov 7 Pine Plains (TS,FG); 1 Nov 12—20 Moore's Mills (HM); 1 Nov 18—20 Salt Point (CT). Common Egret: 1 Sept 12 Cornwall Bay (AM); another on the late date of Oct 8 at L Tappan, Orangeburgh (RFD). Snowy Egret: only 2 reports, both from Cornwall Bay; 1 Aug 30 and another Sept 5, could be the same bird (AM). American Bittern: 1 Sept 19 Cornwall Bay (PJ); another late date of Nov 12 Crugers Is (DF). Mute Swan: a few appear regularly at Iona Is, probably overflow of numbers to the south in Rock, fails to spread northward, only one northern report from Dutch. *WHISTLING SWAN*: 1 Nov 12 Thompson Pd, Dutch (DF). Canada Goose: a very good movement starting early in Sept and continuing thru end of period; max over 2,000 Oct 17 from Hook Mt (E,LM). Snow Goose: unusually good movement; WBC reports 35 birds in Oct and more than 1,000 in Nov; more than 200 on Nov 11 at Cornwall (AM). Gadwall: always unusual; 1 Nov 3 Pleasant Valley (MVW). Pintail: very few reported. Blue-winged Teal: few; numbers down considerably from most fall seasons. Wood Duck: high counts of 26 on Sept 27 at Wawarsing (JCO) and 35 at Tri-Loba Hill Sanct, Katonah Aug 29 (SG). Ring-necked Duck: usual fall movement; max 57 Nov 22 Popolopen L, Oran (JG). Scaup: probably unnoticed; only report, 1 Lesser Nov 9 Dutch (WBC). Common Goldeneye: only reports 6 Nov 5 Rhinecliff (MK,AJ); 3 Nov 27 Rhinecliff (EP,MVW). Bufflehead: 1 Oct 18 Rockland L (JCO); 3 Oct 20 & 21 Amenia (W,TS); more than 50 reported in Dutch dur Nov. Oldsquaw: an unusual movement of 80 birds Nov 16 Rhinecliff (DF); 8 Nov 5 Pine Plains. White-winged Scoter: a pr Oct 26 at Hook Mt (RFD); 4 occurrences in Dutch; 8 Nov 5 Hunn's L; 9 Nov 5 Sylvan L; 3 Nov 9 and 1 Nov 16 on Hudson R. Common Scoter: usually unreported; in good numbers thru area on Oct 17; a small flock of about 30 on L Tiorati, Bear Mt State Park; 30 Glenmere L, Oran; 10 Hunn's L and 25 Stissing L, both Dutch; 3 Oct 23 Rhinecliff and more than 200 Nov 5 at Kingston; other scattered individuals thru Nov. Ruddy Duck: 3 Aug 24 Piermont Pier, about 1 month early (DSD); more than 50 Oct 18 at Rockland L; in good numbers thru region by first week of Nov. Hooded Merganser: usual reports; the last Nov 27. Common Merganser: only report, 2 Dutch (no details). Red-breasted Merganser: more than usual, always rare, especially in fall; 1 Upton L; 2 Nov 9, 1 Nov 16, 3 Nov 27, the latter all on the Hudson R in Dutch. (EP).

HAWKS—OWLS: Goshawk: FNA none: E,LM 1 Oct 28; 1 Nov 7; 2 Nov 8. Sharp-shinned Hawk: FNA max 89 Oct 6; total 367 for season, highest number in 12

years; E,LM had max of 79 Sept 20 and 87 Sept 30, rather early. Cooper's Hawk: FNA max 6 Sept 29, total 26 for season is better than average; E,LM reports max of 6 Sept 20; JCO reports unsuccessful attack by Cooper's on pheasant at Wawarsing. Red-tailed Hawk: FNA max 42 Oct 17, total 169, much below last two years; E,LM max 29 Oct 18. Red-shouldered Hawk: FNA max 5 Oct 2, total 16, among their lowest counts for this species; E,LM max 7 Oct 24 and again on Oct 28. Broad-winged Hawk: most spectacular movement ever; max FNA 1,849 Sept 19, total 3,832 about average; E,LM max 1,207 Sept 9, 3,176 Sept 19, 2,379 Sept 20, these are the largest numbers ever reported locally for a single days watch. Rough-legged Hawk: FNA watch ends before arr of this species; E,LM report 4 Nov 22. Golden Eagle: FNA 1 ad Sept 29; E,LM 1 imm Oct 4, 1 ad Oct 12, 2 imm Oct 20, undoubtedly the best numbers ever reported locally. Bald Eagle: FNA 3 Sept reports, 1 Oct 6; E,LM 1 ad Sept 19. Marsh Hawk: FNA numbers even through period, total 42 is the best year yet; E,LM max 14 Sept 19. Osprey: FNA max 15 Sept 17 and 13 Sept 29, season total 99 better than average; E,LM even numbers thru season; last report Oct 17 for both hawk watches. Peregrine Falcon: FNA 1 Oct 3, only report, largest number was 4 in 1967; E,LM 1 Nov 14, only report for them; 1 Oct 7 Amenia (W,TS). Pigeon Hawk: FNA only 1 report on Oct 3, previous max was 5 in 1967; E,LM 4 for season; 1 Sept 30 all the rest in Oct. Sparrow Hawk: FNA max 102 Sept 19, total 510 best year since 1966; E,LM max 16 Sept 19. Ring-necked Pheasant: numbers reported down in Dutch (WBC), 1 Aug 23 Weyant's Pd, USMA is unusual in the Highlands. Japanese Green Pheasant: released by NYS in 1969; 1 with 7 young observed at Verbank in Sept. Virginia Rail: 1 heard Nov 7 at Tallman Mt Marsh, Rock first report there in several years (RFD). Common Gallinule: 1 from Aug 31 to Oct 16 at Rockland L (PM); last report Dutch Oct 20 at Amenia (W,TS). Coot: many hundreds in late Oct and early Nov on Rockland L. Semipalmated Plover: 1 Sept 17 Cornwall Bay only report. Killdeer: numbers good; 50 Nov 15 in Dutch; 40 Oct 17 Chester; 50 Nov 7 Hamptonburgh. **GOLDEN PLOVER**: remarkable concentration of better than 500 at Buttonwood Tree Farm (formerly the Van Haster Farm) at the intersection of Sarah Wells Trail and Purgatory Road in the town of Hamptonburgh, Oran on Oct 17 (JG, Mrs. Ethel H. Getgood), remained in excellent but dwindling numbers thru end of month, 7 still there on Nov 7, the last day anyone went to observe them, they might have stayed later. Black-bellied Plover: 11th record for RAS 1 Aug 24 at Piermont Pier (DSD). Woodcock: numbers appear improved in Dutch. Common Snipe: 1 Oct 14 Rockland L (PM); 1 Hamptonburgh Nov 1 (RFD), the latter remained thru Nov 7 (EDT). Pectoral Sandpiper: 1 Sept 5 Cornwall Bay and 2 Oct 25 Hamptonburgh (AM). **BAIRD'S SANDPIPER**: 1 at Buttonwood Tree Farm, Hamptonburgh Nov 1 (RFD). Dunlin: 1 Buttonwood Tree Farm Nov 7 (EDT). Sanderling: only report 1 Sept 5 Cornwall Bay (AM). Laughing Gull: several hundred imm Sept 13 at Cornwall Bay (EDT). Common Tern: 5 Cornwall Bay Aug 26, increased to 8 Aug 29, last report 3 Sept 19; 4 more remained on Hudson off Constitution Is from Aug 23 to Aug 27. Cuckoos: unusually good numbers of spring did not persist thru season. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: last late date of Oct 24 Mine Rd, USMA (RFD). Owls: generally normal. Great Horned Owl: heard on numerous occasions, often 2, at Wawarsing (JCO). Saw-whet Owl: 1 killed by a cat Oct 25 at L Katonah, Golden's Bridge West (Susan Krinsky).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Whip-poor-will: only report 2 Sept 19 and 1 Sept 26 at Wawarsing (JCO). Common Nighthawk: excellent migration; small flights Aug 22, Sept 5 and Sept 20 reported by JCO; 50 Oct 26 and 30 Sept 3 over Tri-Loba Hill Sanct, Katonah (SG); WBC reports 102 from Aug 22-29, last 15 Sept 23, late. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: WBC reports better than 20 for the season. Pileated Woodpecker: numbers up in the Wawarsing area; JCO obs 3 at one time on a dead elm; fewer reported elsewhere. Red-headed Woodpecker: almost unreported; has abandoned many of its usual locations in Orange; JCO reports 1 Sept 27-28 in

Wawarsing. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: very few reports; numbers appear down. Crested Flycatcher: 1 Oct 12 Clausland Mt, Rock, very late (DSD). Phoebe: 1 Oct 31 Clausland Mt, rather late. (RFD); JCO reports numbers normal in mid-Sept and Oct after almost complete disappearance in late Aug. Traill's Flycatcher: only 1 Sept report, that in Dutch (WBC). Pewee: 1 late bird singing Oct 12 Clausland Mt (DSD). Olive-sided Flycatcher: only 1 reported during period from Dutch; 2 Aug 30 Weyant's Pd, USMA (JG). Horned Lark: 2 Oct 8 L Tappan; 40 Sept 30 Wawarsing. Tree Swallow: usual excellent migration, started in late July and continued thru late Oct; AM counted 820 in 10 minute period the evening of Sept 29 as they flew down the Hudson in a continuous stream. Barn Swallow: latest, 1 Oct 10-14 Dutch (AJ). Cliff Swallow: 150 perched on wire in storm Aug 23 at Wawarsing (JCO); last 6 Sept 12 at Lithgow, Dutch (EP,FG). Blue Jay: an excellent Sept flight over the lowlands of Ulster Co; flight along the high ridges of the Shawangunk Mts was poor by comparison. Crow: movements have not been especially obvious but increased numbers indicate flight thru region. Fish Crow: 6 in Dutch (WBC). Red-breasted Nuthatch: FH reports species scarce on Slide Mt thru summer; and only a few migrants reported this fall in Ulster; WBC reports 2 in Oct and 2 more Oct 11 at a feeder in Cornwall (AM). Brown Creeper: down in numbers; most reports Nov; max 6 Nov 16 USMA (PJ). House Wren: numbers good. Winter Wren: 3 reported in Dutch and 3 in Oran Carolina Wren: 1 Nov 19 Pleasant Valley (CT); 1 Nov 8 at Cornwall (AM). Long-billed Marsh Wren: 2 singing at Tallman Mt Marsh on late date of Nov 7 (RED), previously wintered there but unrecorded in recent years. Mockingbird: appears to be increasing in Bear Mt Park but numbers stabilized elsewhere. Wood Thrush: several late dates; last 2 Oct 25 Clausland Mt, Rock (DSD). Hermit Thrush: 1 Nov 8 Cornwall (AM). Swainson's Thrush: last Oct 17 Glenmere L, Oran (EAMBC). Gray-cheeked Thrush: only 1 report in Dutch; and another Oct 7 Clausland Mt. Bluebird: rather poor fall movement; usual scattered reports but only a few with any numbers. Kinglet: both species well reported thru Oct. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: rarely reported in fall; 2 Sept 20 Bashakill (EAMBC). Pipit: up in Dutch but less elsewhere; max 100 Oct 30-Nov 1 Hamptonburgh; only single birds reported elsewhere. Cedar Waxwing: good numbers thru season.

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: continues low; only report 1 Sept 29 Wawarsing (JCO). Solitary Vireo: only two reports; 1 Aug 30 Amenia (W,TS); 1 Oct 3 Wawarsing (JCO). Red-eyed Vireo: 1 Oct 4 Wawarsing (JCO); numbers normal. Philadelphia Vireo: more than usual; 1 Sept 7 Red Oaks Mill (M,JK); 1 Sept 6, 7 Weyant's Pd, 4 Sept 20 Bashakill (EAMBC). Warbling Vireo: 1 Aug 23 Wawarsing; 2 Aug 30 Weyant's Pd. Black-and-white Warbler: last Sept 26. Worm-eating Warbler: last Sept 20. Blue-winged Warbler: last Sept 2. Tennessee Warbler: last Oct 14; *ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER*: 1 Sept 27 Dutch; another Sept 26 Rockland L (E,LM). Nashville Warbler: 1 Aug 21 Sparkill; last Oct 10 Dutch. Parula Warbler: last Oct 24. Yellow Warbler: last Oct 17 Rock (DSD); unreported thru most of region; left Dutch Sept 2. Magnolia Warbler: last Oct 14. Cape May Warbler: heavy movement Oct 4; last Oct 14. Black-throated Blue Warbler: last Oct 12 Rock. Myrtle Warbler: 5 reports dur Nov in Dutch. Black-throated Green Warbler: last Oct 14. Blackburnian Warbler: last Oct 4. Blackpoll: last Oct 14. Pine Warbler: 1 Sept 3 and 6 Red Oaks Mill (M,JK). Prairie Warbler: last Oct 2 Amenia, late (W,TS). Palm Warbler: last Nov 7 Millbrook (EP). Ovenbird: last Sept 22. Connecticut Warbler: WBC reports 4; 1 Oct 4 Mine Rd, USMA (JG); another Sept 26 Rockland L (E,LM). Mourning Warbler: WBC reports 4 in Sept, the last on Sept 22; RAS reports 4, the last Oct 12 (DSD). Yellowthroat: 1 very late date of Nov 25 Pleasant Valley (MVW). Chat: only report 1 Sept 1 Dutch. Wilson's Warbler: last Oct 6. Canada Warbler: first Aug 23, last Oct 12, the latter is a late record by 8 days in Rock. (DSD).

BLACKBIRDS-SPARROWS: Meadowlark: unreported from end of May at Wawarsing, numbers appear lower elsewhere. Baltimore Oriole: numbers good; last Nov 7 Pleasant Valley (MVW). Rusty Blackbird: several hundred at Buttonwood Tree Farm, Hamptonburgh from mid-Oct to mid-Nov. Scarlet Tanager: last Oct 31 Stissing, very late. (TH). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: numbers above normal at Wawarsing; last Oct 1 Dutch. Indigo Bunting: numbers good to Oct 3 at Wawarsing, last Oct 4. Evening Grosbeak: only report 10 Oct 21 in Dutch. Purple Finch: numbers down. House Finch: numbers up in Dutch, more than 60 reported thru season; stabilized elsewhere. White-winged Crossbill: only report 1 Sept 2 Dutch (W,TS). Savannah Sparrow. better than 40 Oct 17 Chester (EAMBC). Vesper Sparrow: normal; 3 Oct 17 Chester. Slate-colored Junco: first Sept 12, normal. Tree Sparrow: numbers down, first Oct 31. Chipping Sparrow: good migration; 20 Oct 17 Chester (EAMBC), last Nov 17. Field Sparrow: normal; 8 Oct 17 Chester. White-crowned Sparrow: several scattered reports dur Oct, last Oct 18. White-throated Sparrow: first 3 Sept 12 USMA. Lincoln's Sparrow: 3 reports from scattered areas Sept 27 and 28, last 2 Oct 13. Snow Bunting: several scattered reports, none of any large number; first in Dutch Oct 19.

Winter reports due by Apr 5.
Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls, 10928.

REGION 10 — MARINE

THOMAS H. DAVIS AND LEE MORGAN

This is one of the shortest fall reports we have written, due primarily to the lack of banding station reports and the numerical data their daily summaries provided. Several stations still operate, but not in the government sponsored "Operation Recovery" program, hence there is no pressure to compile statistical data.

Four incidents and/or factors contributed heavily to this fall report: 1) a heavy "kill" at the Empire State Building the night of September 27-28. Although many specimens were thrown away, several hundred forwarded to the AMNH provided 7 new maxima (see VIREOS-WARBLEDERS). 2) a fantastically heavy drift of migration the weekend of October 17-18. At Jones Beach the dawn of the 17th observers noted gulls "feasting" on exhausted migrants flying in from the ocean; on the 18th a station high of over 1200 birds was netted and banded at Tobay Sanctuary. Also, the winds were doubtlessly responsible for two western vagrants, both new to the Region. 3) a good November seabird flight with better than average numbers of alcids and an accidental northern procellariid. 4) the gross number of rarities, 11 accidental species were reported. The affinities were as follows—western, 5; northern, 2; southern, 2; and European, 2.

Contributors frequently cited: RA—Robert Arbib; PB—Paul Buckley; MC—Mickey Cashman; BC—Barbara Conolly; TD—Thomas Davis; AD—Aline Dove; DWF—Davis W. Finch; JG—Joseph Grzybowski; FH—Fred Heath; SH—Stephen Hopkins MK—Michel Kleinbaum AL—Anthony Lauro; EL—Emmanuel Levine; EM—Edward Maguire; KM—Kevin Malone; SM—Shirley Melum; RP—Robert Paxton; DP—Dennis Puleston; GR—Gilbert Raynor; BS—Barbara Spencer; DS—David Sonneborn CW—Cornelius Ward; JY—John Yrizzary. Abbreviations: JBWR—Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge; AMNH—American Museum of Natural History; ESBK—Empire State Building kill night of Sept 27-28; FILS—Fire Island Light banding station.

LOONS-DUCKS. Eared Grebe: 2 Oct 20-Nov 22, JBWR (DWF, TD et al)—ninth consecutive year here, but 2 last reported in Nov 1965. Cory's Shearwater: max 400 Oct 10 Fire Isl (SH). Wilson's Petrel: 12 Jul 16-19 Staten Isl Ferry (R.

Claremont)-petrels have not been reported from New York harbor for years; they apparently passed under the Verrazano Bridge. FULMAR: a light phase bird was seen from a Nov 28 fishing boat off Jones (DS), and 3 more probables Nov 21 from Montauk Point (PB,RP)-the 4th Regional record; there are no specimens or photographs for any previous New York State record. RED-BILLED TROPICBIRD: Oct 25 Riis Park (Roger Pasquier, David Love)-"flying approximately 120 feet offshore, about 40 feet above the water... black line through the eye from the bill, a thick decurved orange-red bill... prominent black marks on the end of the primaries, and flecks of black across the back. The tail lacked streamers but came to a long tapering point..." The much longer field report from which this was extracted also discusses its flight (tern-like), size (slightly shorter than a Herring Gull but slim-bodied, with narrower wings), comparison with other possibilities (Yellow-billed Tropicbird, large terns), and weather factors (quite favorable). Although this species breeds in the Lesser Antilles north to the Virgin Islands, it has been recorded on the eastern U.S. coast but once-June 10, 1963 on Long Island following a tropical disturbance of less than hurricane force. The editors feel Pasquier and Love *probably* saw a Red-billed Tropicbird but in the absence of clinching evidence, the record must remain hypothetical. Gannet: max recorded on Nov 14-400 plus at Montauk and 100 later that day at Mecox (MK). Louisiana Heron: max 11 Sep 24 Oak Beach (BC,SM)-the highest Regional count although it probably includes the pair that bred nearby this summer. Canada Goose: big movement on Oct 17 throughout Region-max noted 6500 at Bronx Park (EM, et al).

HAWKS-OWLS: Broad-winged Hawk: max 1500 plus Sep 19 Bronx Park (EM, et al). Peregrine Falcon: a total of about 15-20 was reported by the *combined* effort of all Jones-Fire Isl weekend observers this fall. Golden Plover: max counts-65 Sep 10 Watermill (PB, et al); 200 Sep 16 Orient (BC,AD,SM)-latter count extremely high. Dunlin: max 1600 Oct 24 JBWR (JY)-very high. Long-billed Dowitcher: max 70 Oct 13 Tobay Pond (DWF)-highest Regional count. Buff-breasted Sandpiper: an "invasion," with over 19 individuals reported-August 30-31 Jones (EL,CW); Sep 4-6 JBWR (mob); 3 Sep 10 Bridgehampton (PB, et al); 10 plus Sep 10 Watermill (PB et al)-highest Regional count; 3 Sep 16-18 Orient (AD,BC,BS,SM); Nov 1 JBWR (R. Claremont)-latest Regional record. Ruff, Jul 28 Oak Beach (BC,BS)-"still showing the lower part of its breeding ruff." American Avocet: 4 or 5 reported-adult Aug 25-Sep 20 JBWR (mob); 2 Sep 6 Tobay Pond (mob); Sep 4-Oct 15 Shinnecock Inlet (mob); imm Sep 17,23 Mecox Bay (C. McKeever et al). Parasitic Jaeger: a bird collected at Fire Isl Light Sep 24 had been banded as a nestling Jul 7, 1969 at Fair Isle, Scotland (L. Rems), max 13 Sep 27 Fire Isl (SH). Herring Gull: 274 nests containing 562 eggs and 118 chicks were counted on Swinburn and Hoffman Islands, Lower New York Bay, Jun 18 (H. Cleaves) Kittiwake: max 150 Nov 28 off Jones (DS). Common Tern: latest report Nov 22 Glen Cove (R. Cioffi). Royal Tern: 2 seen in Montauk area to Nov 21 (mob); Nov 22 Shinnecock Inlet (GR)-extremely late records SANDWICH TERN: adult Aug 22 Moriches Inlet (DWF,MK, R. Plunkett, et al)-photographed by MK. Caspian Tern: Nov 7 Jones (MK)-extremely late. Razorbill: max 16 Nov 28 Montauk Point (PB,RP). Thick-billed Murre: Nov 28 off Jones (DS). Dovekie: max 50 Nov 28 Montauk Point (PB,RP). Ringed Turtle Dove: several have been released at JBWR; on Aug 26 a nest was found (W. Norse).

GOATSUCKERS-STARLING: Common Nighthawk: Oct 13 Seaford (R. Wolk)-late. Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: female Oct 18 Levittown (F. Neary). Great Crested Flycatcher. Nov 7 Riis Park (JY)-extremely late. SAY'S PHOEBE: belated report-Oct 12, 1969, Point O' Woods, Fire Isl (SH)-submitted with full details, 4th Regional record; a previously unpublished report is one collected by Roy Latham, Oct 9, 1933 at Montauk. Olive-sided Flycatcher: Oct 1 Jones (EL)-extremely late. Blue Jay: max 2002 Sep 27 Glen Cove (A. Bell)-"3 hour count

migrating in loose flocks across Glen Cove Creek toward Sea Cliff." Black-billed Magpie: Oct 25 Jones (A. Wollin). WHEATEAR: Sep 28 Brookhaven National Laboratory (D. Schaeffer, DP,GR)-"in winter plumage."

VIREOS--WARBLERS: Philadelphia Vireo: max 8 Sep 20 FILS--highest Regional record; 6 Sep 28 ESBK. Black-and-white Warbler: max 66 Sep 28 ESBK--highest fall count. Nashville Warbler: max 18 Sep 28 ESBK--highest Regional record. Yellow Warbler: Oct 24 FILS--injured bird, collected for AMNH, latest Regional record. Magnolia Warbler: max 64 Sep 28 ESBK--highest Regional record. Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 51 Sep 28 ESBK--highest Regional record. Audubon's Warbler: imm Nov 28 Tobay Sanctuary (AL,PB,RA, et al)-photographed (PB), further details will be prepared for publication. Black-throated Green Warbler: max 32 Sep 28 ESBK--highest fall count. Ovenbird: max 85 Sep 28 ESBK--highest fall count. Louisiana Waterthrush: very rare along coast--3 netted Aug 1 Manorville (GR); imm Aug 8 FILS.

BLACKBIRDS--SPARROWS. Yellow-headed Blackbird: imm male Oct 1 Riis Park (M. Sohmer). BREWER'S BLACKBIRD: 2 Oct 17 Point O' Woods, Fire Isl (SH)-a lengthy report was submitted to the editors with full details of this first Regional record. The observer is familiar with western blackbirds, and the two birds (male and female) were seen in direct comparison with Rusty Blackbirds and Red-wings on an open grassy field. We agree with the observer in noting that Brewer's Blackbird is perhaps more "overlooked" than rare in the northeast, especially during migration. Western Tanager: adult male collected Nov 21 FILS--specimen to AMNH. Blue Grosbeak: Sep 30 Riis Park (DWF); Oct 10 Jones (mob); Oct 25-Nov 2 Bronx Park (E. Oswald, EM, et al)-late. LARK BUNTING: Sep 16 Orient (BC,AD,SM)-"feeding with House Sparrows in a potato field."; Sep 24 Tobay Sanctuary (BC, SM)-"in changing plumage with patches of black showing"; Sep 19 FILS (TD, FH)-"probably this species--an unusual sweet, finch note called our attention to a sparrow-sized bird flying past, showing white in the wings, it settled in beach grass but flushed and disappeared from sight before we could obtain a better view."--from the 1800's to 1959 this species was recorded but five times; since 1964, there are seven occurrences, every fall except 1969. LECONTES' SPARROW: netted Oct 18 Tobay Sanctuary (ALPB,RA et al)-2nd State record, photographed (PB), further details to be prepared for publication. Oregon Junco: male Nov 3 Fire Isl (Granger Ward, RP)-seen with Slate-colored, RP is familiar with the species in west; belated report--male Nov 28, 1969, Point O' Woods, Fire Isl (SH). Clay-colored Sparrow: Sep 12 Fire Isl (TD); Sep 25 Riis Park (R. Pasquier); belated report--May 11-19 Elwood (R. Cioffi)-photographed, extremely rare in spring.

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REVIEW BOOKS RECEIVED

OWLS Their natural and unnatural history. John Sparks and Tony Soper. Taping Publishing Company, 206 pp., illus. \$5.95.

Sweet Suffolk owl, so trimly dight,
With feathers like a lady bright,
Thou singest alone, sitting by night,
Te whit, te whoo, te whit, to whit.
Thy note, that forth so freely rolls,
With shrill command the mouse controls,
And sings a dirge for dying souls,
Te whit, te whoo, te whit, to whit.

Anon

(from Chapter 6 *Owls – the Unnatural History*)

This well-done history, natural and unnatural (as above) written in non-technical language and illustrated with many fine pen and ink drawings by Robert Gillmor, is packed with information about owls the world over.

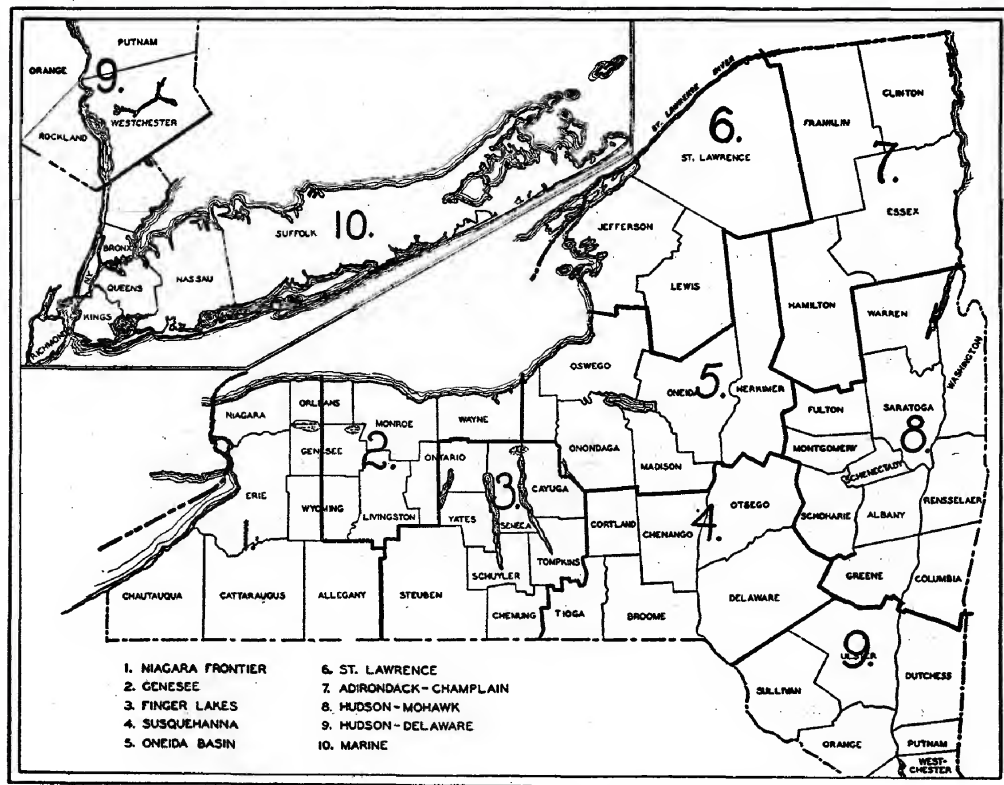
As the authors point out, everyone is interested in owls. With their upright, human posture, cheek-like facial disks and great round eyes, they have successfully disguised their true personalities as the bird version of the wolf in sheep's clothing. In spite of their real-life function as predators and their unhappy reputation as bearers of bad tidings and gloom, owls are fascinating birds.

This book describes how owls are designed to cope with darkness, their courting, nesting and hunting habits and their place in our ecosystem. There is a chapter on owls' relationship with man over the centuries, coming to the conclusion that the birds have not fared too badly. In the chapter entitled "Owls of all shapes and sizes," to me the most interesting in the book, the evolution of owls is traced from the sixty million year old *Protostrix mimica*, whose fossil remains have been found in Wyoming, to the 133 species that have survived today – all the way from the Least Pygmy Owl of Mexico, smaller than the Elf Owl of our southwest, to the great Eagle Owl of Europe, six or more inches taller than our Great Horned. The relationship between the owls as nocturnal hunters and the hawks as diurnal hunters is discussed, as well as the competition between owls and the other crepuscular feeders, the bats and the goatsuckers.

Mr. Sparks and Mr. Soper have put together a fine account of these birds of prey, and it should be recommended reading for all who are interested in them.

J.W.T.

REPORTING REGIONS



For descriptions of Regions see Kingbird Vol. IV, Nos. 1 and 2

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